UFO

a forum on extraordinary theories and phenomena
Vol. 4, No. 2 1989 $3

Hypnosis in UFO Research

Views from Budd Hopkins, Whitley Strieber

Plus:

NSC Document Disclosed

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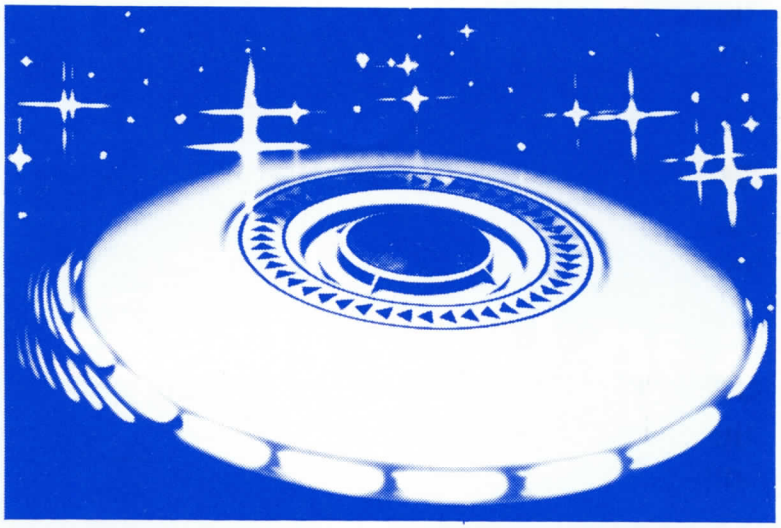

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Events In Alabama..... 5

News begins with a wrap-up feature on the slew of unmistakeable UFO sightings which recently brought nationwide attention to a small southern town.

Government Document Disclosed..... 10

A now-silenced State Department source told investigative reporter James Neilson about an important document emanating from the National Security Council.

Forum: Going Underground..... 15

UFO begins tackling the delicate matter of alleged alien infiltration and earth bases with this beginning compilation on background, fact and opinion.

Hypnotic Regression..... 21

How can we begin to cope with alien abduction? Many in ufology think hypnosis is a viable tool. But the method still needs scrutiny, as Thomas Bullard explains in this special section.

Hopkins & Strieber: On Hypnosis 22

Whitley Strieber and Budd Hopkins, best-knowns in abduction experience and research respectively, offer their views on the use of hypnotic regression.

DEPARTMENTS

News..... 5

People..... 13

MediaWatch..... 14

Forum..... 15

Contactee: Firsthand..... 36

Book Review..... 39

Contact..... 41

Coming Up:..... 48

Recent headlines just about say it all as to where we're headed as a species—and I quote just one, from the *Los Angeles Times:* "Fusion Claims Are at Odds with Basic Laws of Physics." Couldn't the same thing be said about UFO phenomena? "Abduction Claims Are At Odds With Basic Laws Of . . . " And fill in the blank: Physics, Astronautics, Biology, Psychology, Religion—Reality, itself!

While abduction may betoken a frightening alien hazard, the apparent harnessing of surplus energy heralds the positive transformational evidence many on earth have prayed for: the switch from fission to fusion, from a fragmenting consciousness to one that builds harmonious unity into the very elements of life itself. In a sense, ***UFO*** wants to contribute to this breakthrough awareness, but right now we ought to stay within the bounds of our subject matter. And so, each issue, theories and reports address developments from the UFO vantage point, from the stance that we aren't alone. Another force or intelligence, something powerful, mysterious, pervasive and continually fascinating, forces us to re-evaluate ourselves and our planet.

First off, a little town in Alabama stands out as the latest site for a number of UFO appearances, and a local reporter in the state gives us her run-down. Budd Hopkins, Whitley Strieber and Thomas Bullard demystify hypnosis as a tool of abduction research and therapy, each with his own experiential take. Until just a short time ago, the hypnotic process was seen as a means of control and manipulation, but it, too, is undergoing a transformation.

James Neilson has again tapped his sources to uncover more surprising facts about the government's secret UFO involvement. But this may be it for awhile—leaks are being plugged with a vengeance in Washington, and UFOs simply aren't too high on the muckrakers' urgency list while highgrade news sources continue to dry up. The implications of this one NSC document, however—should it really exist—confirm some of ufology's worst fears.

And we begin to go underground, circling the topic from another direction. ***UFO*** digs in just a little by introducing the precursor to the Lear material—the Bennewitz story. As perhaps intended, the longtime menace of alien propaganda continues to divide ufology into two armed camps, going at it on a battleground designed for all-out psychological warfare. Like this heady fusion technology, the war has only just begun.

Vicki Cooper

S T A F F

Published and Edited By California UFO
Vicki Cooper
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L E T T E R S

Editor:

One concludes after reading your last issue that ufology is being victimized by an egregious fiction. I submit that the government conspiracy theory that has infected UFO study is, in cold fact, an enormous hoax perpetrated by its "serious" proponents. Why? In the last four decades, the "scientific" researchers have not learned one damned thing more about the nature of UFOs than they did the day after Kenneth Arnold's encounter, although they've pondered, analyzed and dissected no end.

Boredom. Frustration. Desperation. Any number of names could be put on the motivation for this preposterous hoax. And now, black helicopters harrassing saucerological luminaries! Mercy! The MIB are riding in style these days.

Bob Renaud
Washington, MA

Editor:

The article on the Long Island wave of mutilations (Vol. 4, No. 1) fits in more with the satanic subject.

I am a psychic and ex-law enforcement officer. I have worked on many cases involving satanic mutilations. Within the last couple of years, law enforcement agencies have been trained in such areas, but in some cases the local agencies shy away from satanic beliefs as motivation for the crime.

Though we're still learning whether certain cases pertain to UFOs or devil worshippers, it shouldn't be difficult on examining the areas where the mutes took place to determine what had occurred. The evidence alone should tell the story.

(Name Withheld)
Woodland Hills, CA

Editor:

Since you publish abduction accounts in a department called "Contactee: First Hand," it would seem you are of the same opinion as John Keel, who has recently criticized Budd Hopkins and Whitley Strieber for treating UFO abductions as a relatively recent phenomenon. Keel says abductions should be recognized as the same things as contactee cases of the 1950s.

I beg to differ with you and Keel. Contactees claim voluntary, pleasant contacts with human beings (albeit ones allegedly from Venus or wherever). In contrast to this, abductions are forced, unpleasant experiences usually involving humanoids.

I am not arguing that contacts and abductions might not be parts of some larger phenomenon. But they are separate, distinct parts, and it is cruel to the victims of abductions to lump them in with those who claim pleasant experiences with the "space brothers."

Richard Heiden
Milwaukee, WI

Ed. Note: We fully recognize the distinction between contactees and abductees. However, they constitute two related though contradictory aspects of the phenomenon our magazine attempts to cover as a whole. We plead editorial expediency for the perhaps inappropriate title of that section, as well as lack of a better term to encompass the broader idea of direct "alien contact." Suggestions are welcome!

Editor:

The September issue of Japan's ***Science*** Magazine ran a full report of a UFO sighting by crewmembers of the ship Kaiyo-maru which took place in 1984. I would like to make a rough translation of the report for your magazine.

I will omit the first report of a normal sighting of unusual bright objects in the sky, and tell of the second report. An actual eye sighting was made by only one of the crew members, but a tracking record of the UFO image continued for nearly six hours duration. About an hour after sunset, one crewman on watch duty detected a huge, oblong image on the radar screen at a 3 mile range. He thought it was a megatanker, but when he went to check the area, found nothing.

It reappeared on the screen later, approaching the front of the ship from the port side and circling it at 5 miles distance, then 10. Then it made a right-angle turn until only 1.5 miles from the ship. At that point, it made another sharp turn and disappeared from the screen. As it took only 4 seconds to clear 3 miles distance, its speed was estimated at 1.4 km. per second—5,000 kph or Mach 4.

Katzuo Masuda
Kamakura, Japan

Editor:

I was abducted in 1960 and have been a UFO researcher now for seven years. My UFO research has become a compulsion, and has turned up some very sensitive information that has caused my mail and phone to be monitored, files to be stolen, etc. This UFO "hobby" of mine can get rough!

Quite a magazine you've got there. With the "hot" UFO data that you publish, it's a wonder that Big Brother or the Men-in-Black have not leaned on you to shut down. They can and do play a mean game of hard-ball.

Lew Tery
Colorado Springs, CO

Editor:

Re the article series on "Mystery Helicopters" (Vol. 4, No.1): I saw one of those black jobs last year, here in Lexington. It was flying so low—probably no more than 200 feet—that I was able to catch only a glimpse of it between housetops and trees.

It kind of bugged me. Who are these sons-of-bitches? Knowing the kind of government we have, I don't put anything past it.

Milan Rafayko
Lexington, KY

Editor:

One morning in August of 1984, when my daughter and I were traveling west on Interstate I-80, near the Continental Divide, we observed a suspicious black helicopter. I assumed it was a newly-developed model being tested, even though it stayed even with our car. I thought it was playing with

continued

me and so I played with it by using my usual "reality check" mode on it.

My instincts told me not to report the above event. There are private individuals who have enough money to own large amounts of military equipment and conduct surveillance, however.

I wish such surveillance phenomena were the United States government; then there would be a chance for this kind of thing to be reported and an open, legal, government-supervised investigation conducted. I feel there are people within the government who know who is behind it, but they know also that these private individuals are so far above the law and so powerful it would be useless to make any moves to expose them.

A public movement the size of the anti-Vietnam War protests would have to take place for anything real to transpire. In the meantime, please, people—don't be so naive when searching for the causes of the effects, and be careful whom you talk to.

Kathy Kasten
Los Angeles, CA

Ed. Note: Kasten contributed to last issue's "Contactee: First-Hand."

Editor:

I am the hypnotherapist referred to but not named in Dan Wright's article on George and Shirley Coyne. (Vol. 4, No. 1). As a result of our involvement, I, too have been having encounters with those same black helicopters—Amazing how they seem to show up no matter where we go!

For three years, I have been doing regressions with Michigan abductees. We have nearly 50 cases, some involving entire families. With this many cases, we have begun to find some interesting facets of individual encounters that seem to interweave with the experiences of other abductees, as well as with the lives of those of us who investigate.

There are many things we learned which I feel need to be shared. I must admit that I am never sure what we are involved in—most of the time I have more questions than answers.

Virginia M. Tilly
Stevensville, MI

The following enlarges upon the "black helicopter" experiences of a Michigan couple, who feel the choppers are being used to track them.

Editor:

Dan Wright's article on our visits by black helicopters (Vol. 4, No. 1) was well-written and had a real flow to it. However, he missed some of the most telling points.

His reference to the chopper's first appearance on Jan. 10 of 1988 as being possibly a coincidence misses the mark by a mile.

Wright, better than most others, should know that our phone is tapped as well as having a tracer so "they" know who is calling us. He called us once from Lansing. In between the last ring and our phone being picked up, he heard a male voice say, "Excuse me, I've got to handle this."

The regression session on the 10th had been arranged by two telephone calls on the 9th. No one else knew about this except myself, Shirley, the subject and the therapist. The chopper showed up at precisely the time that had been arranged over the phone. When it hovered, it lowered its nose as though showing someone in the rear seat that there I was, standing on the deck like a sitting duck. This was precisely the time that the tape recorder in the bedroom was shut off and all the knobs altered (presumably) by some force from the craft.

At the same time, I must have been "hit" by some power from the chopper. Four days later, on Jan. 14, I began to have extremely painful stabbings to my muscular structure. It would hit different muscles on different days, and last for a day or two before moving to another set of muscles.

This was extremely debilitating. I would have no power in the muscles affected. For example, if I was driving the car when it started, I could not use that hand or arm to turn the ignition off.

I contacted my doctor. I underwent a long series of tests, meanwhile living with some strong pain medication. My doctor sent me to a neurologist, and I underwent another series of tests. I then went to a rheumatologist; he did yet another series of tests. They were unable to diagnose any known disease or problem.

Finally, by August the sharp pains stopped and I was left with some mighty sore muscles. I had lost 20-25 lbs. from my muscles. I have slowly recuperated since then.

As you know, I had gone to Sen. Donald W. Riegle, Jr. of Michigan, who sent letters to the FBI, the NSA and the CIA. Two important factors came out of this: The FBI said they were not interested in *George* or *Shirley* Coyne as investigative subjects. The NSA said they were not interested in *George* Coyne. Does their leaving out Shirley have any meaning?

The really meaningful factor came at this point. Sen. Riegle, after receiving the NSA's reply, *closed the case.* What does this tell any thinking person? The senator had been a classmate of mine at the University of Michigan. I wrote him a letter saying I understood and did not blame him for his lack of further action. Later, he wrote back saying that after three letters and two phone calls to the CIA, they in effect finally said that this was not in their area of interest.

But back to the helicopter visitations. On Sept. 1, 1988, at 2:26 a.m., a 'copter did a power dive to within 30-40 feet of our home. This of course landed us on the floor with blankets flying. The neighbors, naturally, complained. There have been very few weeks where the black 'copter hasn't shown up for a leisurely circling of the mobile home park.

Once again, on Jan. 27 at 5 p.m., we received a phone call from a young couple who had been abducted. We arranged a 7 p.m. session. At 6:45, the black chopper showed up about a quarter mile west of us and hovered there until 7:30. The couple never arrived. The interesting point here is logistics. Within 105 minutes, they had a chopper sitting out here waiting. Here is a government saying UFOs and aliens don't exist, and they are therefore not interested. Yet they have one of their intelligence agencies obviously sitting at the ready, waiting for whatever, with 'copters and pilots all set to dash out at a moment's notice. How can Shirley and I be considered a threat to the security of the United States?

George Coyne
Flushing, MI

N E W S

The Alabama UFO Story

By LaRue Hardinger

FYFFE, ALABAMA—Was it a flying saucer? An undercover government plane? A heavenly body? A weather balloon? An illusion?

The silent, brightly-lit flying object reported in February and March by countless people near Fyffe, Alabama has apparently disappeared.

Hundreds of eyewitness accounts over the period included three up-close encounters. At the time of this writing no landings or abductions had been reported, but the recurring sightings, which always took place between 7 p.m. and midnight, grew into an internationally-known UFO flap.

Fyffe Police Dispatcher Sheila Smith said the sightings subsided in mid-March, but curiosity has not.

Still Unknown

The famous Fyffe UFO continues to stump skeptics and believers alike. Even a photograph of the UFO, taken March 9 by a local photographer, offers no answers.

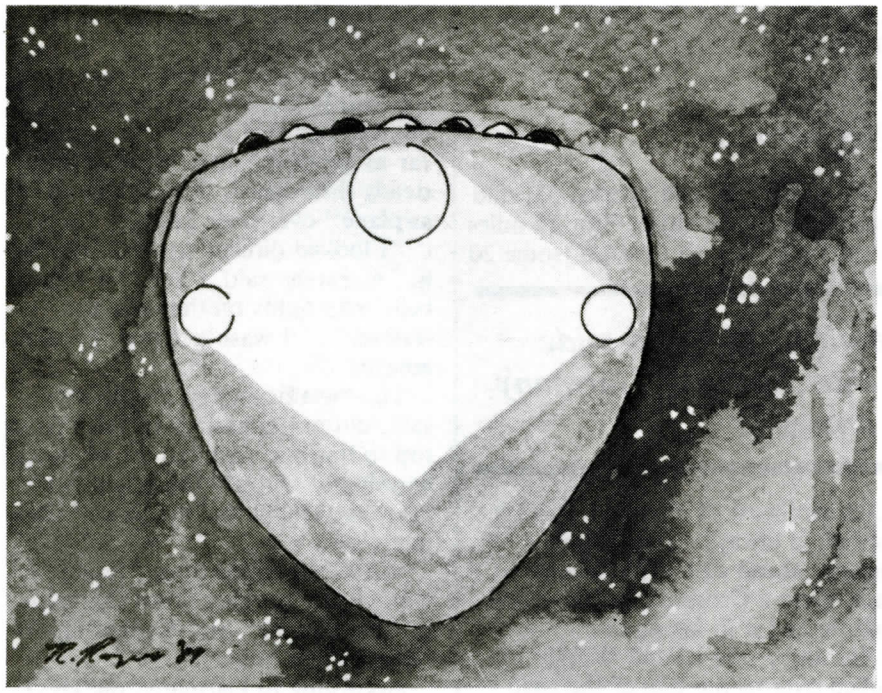
Airports and military bases within a 300-mile radius reported no aircraft in the Fyffe area at times of the sightings.

Scientists and UFO experts have ruled out possible conventional explanations of a weather balloon and a "lighter-than-air" experimental U.S. government ship. (See sidebar)

Jeff Ballard, of the nationwide Mutual UFO Network, said he is continuing to investigate the sightings.

Meanwhile, the once laid-back mountain town of Fyffe has been dubbed "UFO Headquarters" of the Southeast.

Local talk invariably leads to the "triangular-shaped, larger-than-a-house" object, which for a short while turned the town into a hub of UFO mania.



NIGHT VISION—Watercolor of UFO's underside as described by local police officials Junior Garmany and Fred Works. By Ron Rogers

Representatives of nationwide media, sightseers, and homegrown "Fyffe UFO" souvenirs flooded town shortly after the object first appeared. But it was mostly local people who searched every clear night for the brightly-lit object that could hover, rise, descend, glide horizontally and speed out of sight—all without a sound.

Press Coverage

"This is unreal," said Fyffe Police Chief Junior Garmany, producing a stack of telephone messages from reporters in Alabama, Illinois, Oregon, Kansas, Arizona, Maryland, Colorado, California and Canada. "This is the first time we've run into anything like this."

Garmany said two earlier UFO sightings by police (in 1975 and 1977) near Fyffe did not elicit a fraction of the press coverage as the one that bewildered a score of people here the night of Feb. 10.

At 7:30 that night, Donna Saylor told Fyffe police that she saw a brightly-lighted "banana-shaped" object hovering over a neighbor's pasture.

Reports by Saylor and others drew criticism, but witnesses say they are convinced they saw something they cannot explain.

"My sister and I had gone to Fyffe to the grocery store that night," Saylor began. "When we were going home, we saw this bright light in the sky just over the trees. It wasn't moving, but it was too big to be a helicopter. It just about scared my sister to death. And then it disappeared.

"It had red lights on the end and green lights all across the bottom," she continued. "Every so often it looked like it was turning, with green lights coming out of the bottom, kind of like fireworks."

The mother of a two-year-old son

ALABAMA HORIZON—Photographer and newspaper owner Teri Baker took this photograph of a bright light that many believe may be the UFO local residents claim to have observed in DeKalb County, AL.

said she concluded the object to be "a UFO from outer space, or something the government is testing . . . in these little out-of-the-way places." Fyffe is a rural town of about 1,400 atop Sand Mountain in northeast Alabama.

Mrs. Saylor called Police Chief Garmany and Asst. Chief Fred Works, who turned their patrol car in the general direction of the sighting.

"I am used to looking at things at night," said Garmany, a 16-year-veteran of the force. And I got a good look at it.

"I'm not saying it was a flying saucer," Works added, "but what really got me was the lack of sound."

UFO Pursuit

Garmany, 38, and Works, 35, said they pursued the object "for 12 miles from Tenbroeck to Dawson (some 20 miles southeast of Fyffe) . . . and it seemed to always stay the same distance ahead of us. We turned back when a Crossville police officer said he had it in his sights."

Garmany said he and Works pulled over to the side of the road when the Crossville officer radioed that the object had turned around and was flying back in their direction.

Garmany said he and Works watched in amazement for a full minute, standing beside the patrol car as the object flew silently "at a steady little speed, slower than an airplane" over their heads.

"I looked directly up underneath it," Garmany said. "It had a wide belly with lights on the ends that flashed . . . I wasn't scared. I was amazed."

The metallic object, the officers said, did not appear to be thick from top to bottom, and had no windows, lettering or wings."The bright lights are what caught my attention," Garmany said.

Works described three "bright white lights hanging down that cupped back under" and focused on the center of the object.

According to Garmany, the UFO, traveling at a 1,000-foot altitude, disappeared over the horizon.

'I looked directly up underneath it. It had a wide belly with lights on the ends that flashed,' Garmany said. 'I wasn't scared. I was amazed.'

Gadsden Times
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122nd Year — 253rd Issue
Gadsden, Alabama, Sunday, March 12, 1989

Officials growing weary of sightings

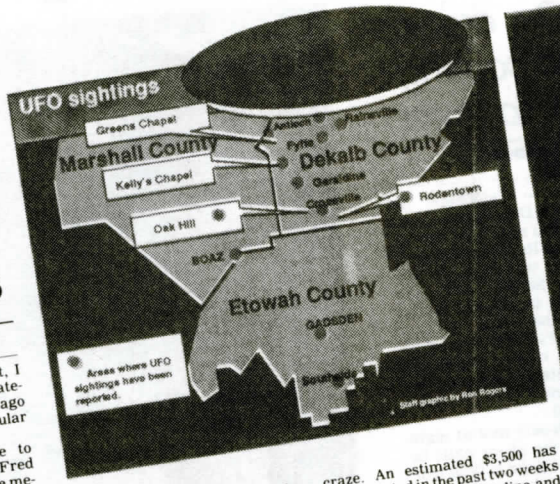
By LaRue Hardinger
Staff Writer

FYFFE — "If I'd 'a' seen it, I wouldn't 'a' told it." That statement was made about a month ago in King's Grill in Fyffe, a popular lunch spot.

The statement was made to Fyffe Assistant Police Chief Fred Works because he had told the media about his Feb. 10 close-up view of an unidentified object that he claimed glided silently over his patrol car.

Works and Police Chief Junior Garmany stand by their conviction. They saw something, but they are not sure what is was. They both want an explanation for the metallic, triangular-shaped shadow.

Now, both men think maybe the unsolicited advice given at the Grill was not so bad.



First it was a novelty to be the center of newspaper, radio and television talk.

Suddenly, Fyffe — a small "laid-back" town — became a hub of UFO mania.

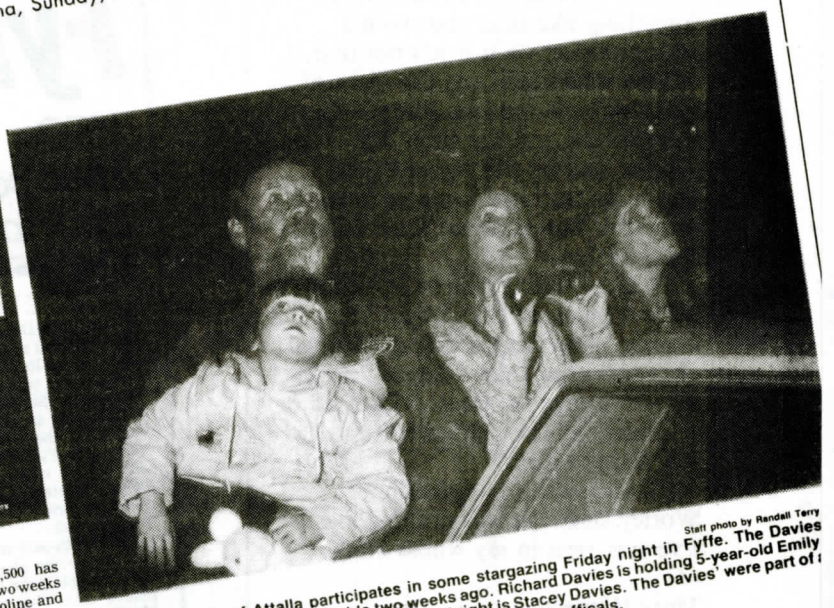
But sightings have multiplied. Calls from skywatchers continue to clog police telephone lines.

The town will never be quite the same — even though some businesses have cashed in on the UFO craze. An estimated $3,500 has been counted in the past two weeks because of souvenir, gasoline and food sales.

T-shirts, caps, frisbees, earrings, coffee mugs and balloons were available Friday night for UFO hunters. The crowd was estimated at 1,500 — more than Fyffe's population.

Works and Garmany said Fri-

Please see UFO, A6



Staff photo by Randall Terry

The Davies family of Attalla participates in some stargazing Friday night in Fyffe. The Davies claimed they saw a UFO in Southside two weeks ago. Richard Davies is holding a pair of binoculars and at right is Stacey Davies. The Davies' Rita Davies is holding 5-year-old Emily were part of a crowd that reached 1,500 Friday night, according to Fyffe officals.

NASA Balloon Facility Consulted

UFO Not Weather Balloon

Apparently witnesses to the Fyffe UFO weren't seeing weather balloons, once a favored conventional explanation used to dismiss flying saucer sightings. According to Betty Furman, an 18-year veteran of the National Scientific Balloon Facility in Palestine, Texas, the most recent NASA weather balloons were launched in September of 1988.

The NSBF, a NASA contractor through the New Mexico State University Physical Sciences Laboratory, is the world's only such balloon-launching facility.

NSBF balloons carry atmospheric monitoring equipment into the stratosphere, 80,000 to 130,000 feet into the air. The data collected from these balloons are used in scientific research.

The helium-filled plastic balloons, "larger than the Goodyear Blimp," Furman says, stay afloat no more than 12 hours. "They then self-deflate and are recovered by our recovery team. All of our balloons have been retrieved," she added.

Furman claims that if an NSBF balloon had been launched into the correct time frame and was tracked by radar through the Fyffe area, "it could not have been seen with the naked eye." A telescope is required for viewing even when sunlight is reflected off the balloon, which could appear to be a star when viewed through the instrument. "When the sun hits it, it does have a whitish glow," she said.

NSBF's balloons are lighted not with a string of red and green lights, but with one white, blinking strobe that automatically shuts off during the daytime, she said.

Unlike the Fyffe UFO, "our balloons don't move up and down," Furman continued. "They reach maximum height in about two hours, and stay there until they deflate." They are launched in accordance with the jet stream in order to keep them above dry land, Furman said, and though that jet stream is sometimes strong enough to carry the balloons into Alabama and beyond, she added that the balloons are carried by the wind and never remain in one place for long.

NSBF weather balloons measure 11-million by 28 million cubic feet and are shaped somewhat like an upside-down pear. "I can remember only one balloon that was mistaken for a UFO," she said. "That was years ago." —*L.H.*

"I'd like someone to explain to my satisfaction what it was," he mused. "It could be made right here on Earth but nobody will acknowledge it being there.

"I'm not the sort of man to say something like this, and stake a 16-year career on it if it's not true."

Two weeks later, on the night of Feb. 24, local resident Rhonda Gipson said she and her sister Jill Worley spotted the object "just above the treetops" on a rural road near their home, about three miles south of Fyffe.

"I didn't really believe in UFOs before, but now I do," said Mrs. Gipson, describing a brightly-lighted object "bigger than a house" hovering just above the trees. "Then all of a sudden, all the lights went out. It just disappeared."

"I was scared . . . shaking," Worley said. "It was nothing like I've ever seen in my whole life."

More Witnesses

Five days later on the night of March 1 nearby Crossville resident J.T. Turner told police that the object "came right over his house," according to Crossville police dispatcher Connie Brothers. "He said it had lights on each end and one in the middle," Brothers reported.

Eyewitness reports were also given by Fyffe Fire Chief Ricky Dobbins, Chief Randall Barnett of the Geraldine Police Department, Deputy Dale Orr of the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office, Crossville Patrolman Chuck Priest and by Alabama State Trooper Van Douglas of Fort Payne.

"(The object) almost looked like a star from a distance, except for the different-colored lights," said Fire Chief Dobbins. "I just wish somebody would bring a high-powered telescope up here and tell us what it is."

One well-publicized photo of the object was taken on March 9 by Teri Baker, co-owner of the Weekly Post in Rainsville, AL. The photo shows a bright white light with an indiscernible shape. The object is believed to be the same one spotted by Garmany and Works.

Ballard of MUFON said some of the Fyffe sightings were "a couple of major stars, such as Arcturus, which appears nightly just northeast of Fyffe.

Gadsden Ti
122nd Year — 246th Issue
Gadsden, Alabama, Sunday, March 5, 198

Fyffe fever!

UFOs, crowds keep coming back to town

By LaRue Hardinger
Staff Writer

FYFFE — Telephone the Fyffe Police Department these days and you may hear the answer, "UFO Research Center."

The voice was that of Fyffe Dispatcher Sheila Smith, who was joining in the fun Friday night as thousands watched skies over Fyffe for a mysterious flying object which has been reportedly sighted here several times over a three-week period.

Ms. Smith said that at nightfall Friday the phone calls began. "People were calling from places like Chattanooga and Mobile, wanting to know where 'the UFO hunt' was going to start," she laughed. "I just told them it was here, there and everywhere."

Outside Fyffe City Hall, smiles and friendly banter were exchanged by acquaintances and strangers alike. The air was thick with anticipation. Police Chief Junior Garmany said this rural mountain town of 1,400 had "never seen anything like this."

More than 5,000 people cruised and strolled about Fyffe's streets and sidewalks Friday night, scanning the sky for anything unusual. Fyffe Police Sgt. Greg Works said 500 is the usual Friday crowd.

Folks came from as far as Washington, D.C., Tennessee and Florida hoping to see the object that witnesses have said is brightly lighted and can maneuver itself much like a hummingbird — all without sound.

Although sightings of the object had been reported for three nights running, Friday's cloud cover blocked out most heavenly bodies and any UFO's that happened to be up there. But one thing was clearly visible — everyone had a good time.

"This is the best way to spend a Friday— people watching," said Bill Frymoyer of Washington, D.C. "Nobody out here seems to have seen a UFO, but everyone's having a great time, and it's good for a place like this to get this kind of publicity."

Frymoyer's companion, Barbara Krebs, asked Garmany and Fyffe Assistant Police Chief Fred Works to autograph her custom-made "I Believe 'Em" T-shirt.

The shirts, priced at $12.50 apiece, sold out at the Fyffe Fire Hall by 9 p.m., but more would be available "as soon as possible," said Charles Bailey of Centre. Bailey, who along with brother Jeff and Nathan Jones of Section designed the T-shirts that depict Works and Garmany standing beside their

Please see UFOs, A7

The above is an illustration of what Fyffe might have looked like Friday night if a UFO did show up.

AP Laserphoto

These aliens are not from outer space but they were in Fyffe Friday night. Actually the two are Albertville residents Cindi Long, left, and Bobby Matthews.

"I have watched people up there with binoculars, staring at an object in the sky that was not moving. It appeared at the same time every night, and appeared to arise from a northeasterly direction, right over Fyffe," he said. Ballard feels what those witnesses were viewing was the extremely-bright star Arcturus.

"But we haven't figured out what the close-up sightings were. I thought perhaps they were some type of lighter-than-air aircraft (being developed for) the future. I looked into the possibility of a very large, triangular shaped airship being developed by the U.S. military, one that could carry large payloads and travel at 200 miles per hour. I thought (the UFO) may well have been something like that, because it fit the description.

"But it seens state-of-the-art airships come only in the classic blimp shapes, and are used to carry radar and other instruments. We are continuing the investigation."

LaRue Hardinger is a freelance writer and a reporter/staff writer from the Gadsden Times in Gadsden, Alabama.

'Mysterious Lights' Seen In Guatemala

Nearly every night since mid-February, recurring UFOs or "mysterious lights" have been observed in the skies over the mountainous Central American country of Guatemala.

Reports the *Baltimore Sun*, "They have become a national preoccupation in a land whose mysteries are usually more heartbreakingly earthbound, bringing thousands of sightseers to this mountainous region and dominating headlines of the country's newspapers day after day."

Readers have been treated to eyewitness accounts from numerous Guatemalan citizens, among them doctors, lawyers, police officers, pilots and engineers.

Typical witness accounts have reported the UFOs as clearly visible in the night sky. Said one witness, "It suddenly emitted a powerful light . . .it had lights above, below, to the rear, and was making no sound."

UFO Info Service Changes Hands; New Directions Impending

By Don Ecker

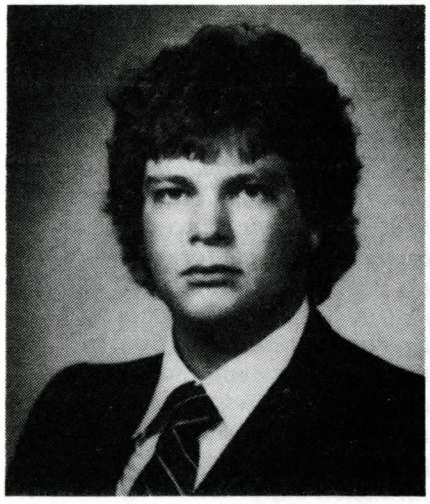
James Speiser, the founder and administrator of the ParaNet Computer Information System, has recently resigned and turned over administrative duties to Michael Corbin of Colorado.

Speiser founded the ParaNet system in Fountain Hills, Arizona in 1986. ParaNet was one of the first computer informational systems to provide paranormal information, concentrating on the reporting and investigation of the UFO phenomenon.

ParaNet was in the forefront of reporting on the emerging MJ-12 story and the controversial Lear hypothesis. Very well known and respected among ufologists because of its rational slant, ParaNet is now an international organization with bulletin board systems (BBSs) in England and Australia, and additional BBSs in Japan are scheduled to come on line in the near future.

Corbin has stated that with these additional BBSs in the U.S. and overseas, he hopes to see the scope of ParaNet increase to the point of conducting investigations and becoming much more active in the receiving and reporting of new sighting cases.

Currently, ParaNet computer bulletin boards are active and in operation in Denver, CO, Ft. Smith, AK, Flagstaff, AZ, Lexington, KY, Bethany Park, IN, and Bushkill, PA to name a few of the U.S. cities. Also Canada, Britain and Melbourne, Australia have ParaNet BBSs.



Michael Corbin

ParaNet has also just received a 'special interest' section in the issues forum of Compuserve, the largest and best known of the national computer informational services.

More information on ParaNet and its parameters can be found in the Contact section.

Chemical Analysis Reveals 'UFO Ash' As Potassium Chloride

Chemical analysis by Australian scientists has determined that the black, ash-like substance left on the car of UFO witness Fay Knowles is composed of potassium chloride molecules displaying highly unusual characteristics.

In January of 1988, Knowles and her two sons Sean and Wayne were accosted by a "huge, bright glowing object" while driving on a remote stretch of road in southern Australia. The strange substance was covering the car after the encounter.

Scientists at Melbourne's Monash University say the particles appear like nothing ever before seen, showing unusual velocity characteristics as if ejected from a space shuttle blast.

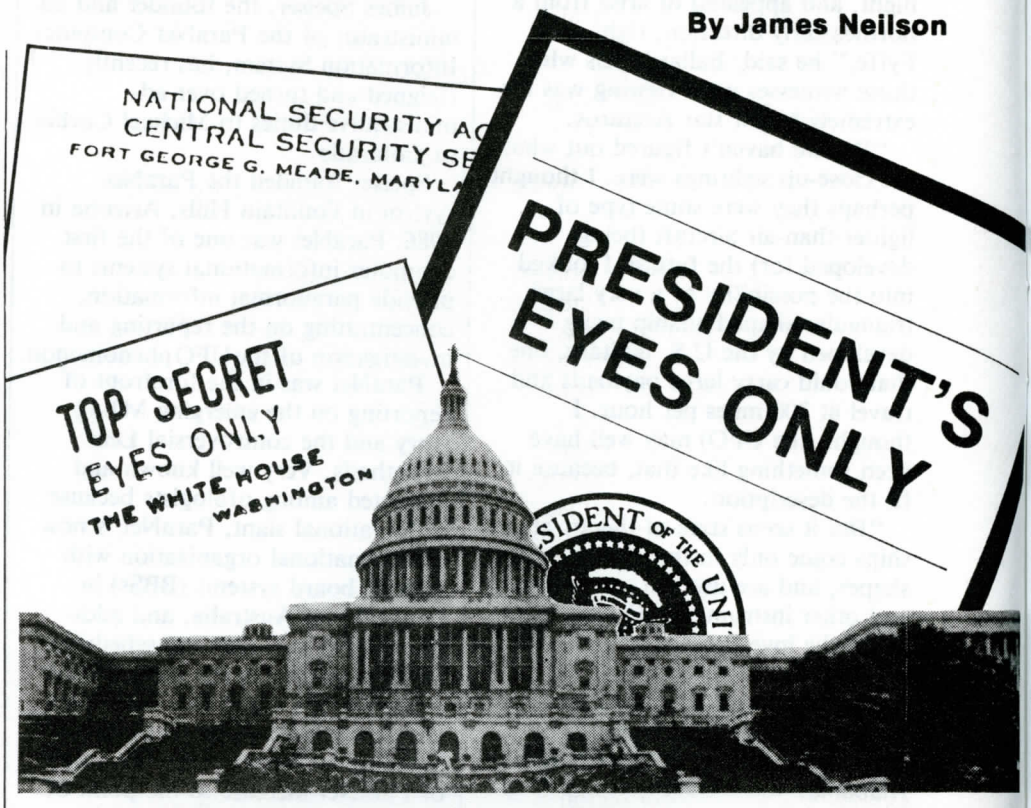
This is not the first time such "UFO dust" has figured into a documented UFO encounter. Another case in Pennsylvania left such evidence. The Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained (PASU) reports that on Dec. 4 of last year, a police officer viewed a bright light shining through some trees in Dauphin County. As he approached the area where the light shone, he allegedly saw a bright object about 75 feet in diameter, shaped like a flattened oval.

After the object disappeared, the witness noticed that his car was covered with an unusual powdery substance, which PASU later identified as potassium chloride.

Underground 'Facility' Noted

Gov't. Source Describes UFO Brief

By James Neilson



Author's note: This and my previous article on the government's infrastructure dealing with UFOs (Vol. 4, No. 1) should in no way be construed as an indication that high-level government sources are now beginning to come forward to break the veil of secrecy which shrouds this matter. These reports are based largely on information from intelligence community sources—cultivated with respect to my reporting on covert operations—who happen to have overlapping access to information on, or knowledge about, this infrastructure.

A journalist friend of mine who has written for such publications as *The Washington Post, The Nation* and *Regardies*, and whose first book, an inside look at the Pentagon, was recently published, told me over dinner recently that he once asked his brother-in-law, a 15-year employee of the National Security Agency (NSA), what the hottest story in Washington is. His brother-in law's cryptic response: "There really is a Santa Claus!"

Taken aback, my friend asked his brother-in-law, "What do you mean?"

"Think about it," his brother-in-law replied.

"What are you trying to tell me?" my friend asked, "—that there are little green men from Mars running around?"

"You've got it!" his brother-in-law answered.

My friend later asked me, "Now, you tell me, just how the hell do you go after that one?"

Indeed. Successfully penetrating the veil of secrecy and coverup that shrouds this unprecedented matter, as those in the field all too well know, is not an easy matter. This in itself is a clear indication of the degree of secrecy and importance the government has attached to it. To be sure, though, one place to start is with the super-secret NSA.

An Executive branch employee with top-secret security clearance, who had joined my friend and me at the above-mentioned dinner, claims to have seen a secret report in which high level references were made to the NSA pertaining to the government's mission dealing with UFOs.

Though the source says he viewed it only briefly while at a State Dept. Intelligence and Research office (INR)[1], the document allegedly issued from the National Security Council (NSC) to the Secretary of State's office. It appeared to have been prepared as a briefing paper for the new Bush administration leadership there. The source further states that the document was stamped with a Cosmic security classification, clearly indicating the highly-classified nature of its contents. ("Cosmic" is a clearance given to Executive branch officials, such as members of the NSC, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), the director of the NSA as well as heads of NATO.[2])

Saying he received a warning from the INR officer who was present to immediately "forget" having seen it, the source describes the document as an "annual report" on the operation of a government facility dealing expressly with UFOs, located somewhere along the *northern New Mexico border. The source said the report indicated that this "facility was deep underground," and had to do with the development of a "super computer," along the lines of artificial intelligence, utilizing alien technology apparently provided by alien beings themselves*, who, the source said, "I got the impression were running the show." (Italics added.)

Despite the unbelievability of what this document disclosed, there is no reason to doubt this source's claim of having seen it. The source has been responsible for providing crucial information to support a number of stories on covert operations and national security matters, which have within the last six months been published in some of the nation's most influential newspapers and magazines. Those present at the dinner, including a man previously attached to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, believe he did see the document he claims to have seen.

As pointed out in my previous article about the government UFO-related infrastructure, the State Department has officially included the term "UFO" within its vocabulary, within the context of functions of the office of the Undersecretary for Security Assistance, Science and Technology. This is the department of State which interfaces with military and intelligence offices responsible for space-related activities and security concerns.

As material which was reportedly classified Cosmic, it will be next to impossible to prove that it exists. It will be even harder to prove the existence of the facility and operations its contents dealt with, and it's obviously something that's certainly not going to be obtained through the overrated Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Yet based on the source's overall credibility, established by the fact that his information for previous articles on covert operations has checked out, it's believed that the document he viewed does exist. Moreover, that it referenced the NSA and in part dealt with advanced computer communications corroborates information from other intelligence community sources who have described the NSA's function within the government's overall infrastructure dealing with UFOs.

Based on NSA-generated documents obtained under the FOIA, that agency has long been known to be playing an unidentified role in government UFO investigations. According to two ranking intelligence sources from separate agencies, who spoke with ***UFO*** only on the condition that they not be named, that role is to intercept and decode/understand alien communications and systems. A third intelligence officer, when told about this, nodded his awareness of the situation.

Alien Communications

A number of NSA documents that have been obtained through FOIA requests certainly seem to indicate that the NSA has, at the very least, intercepted foreign military communications dealing with UFOs. Ostensibly controlled by the Pentagon, the NSA is the crown jewel in the U.S.' intelligence-gathering crown. It is the largest, most important, most expensive and most clandestine member of what is euphemistically referred to as the "intelligence community." It is also the most untouchable; thus far it has been virtually free to do as it pleases. Indeed, the NSA receives a substantial amount of money for so-called "black" programs. Though appropriated by Congress, black budgets are virtually unsupervised by Congressional oversight committees, and their purposes are generally unknown to the members of Congress who approve their funding.

Even though it absorbs a phenomenal estimated amount of $30 billion a year and employs more than 120,000 people worldwide, the NSA emits very little evidence of its existence. For a great many years, that existence was never even officially acknowledged. It engages in everything from cryptology (code-breaking) and the surveillance of Soviet military and nuclear development to encouraging illegal burglaries and practicing domestic spying. It has the expansive and intimidating capability of monitoring every electronic communication in the world.

Intelligence community sources say that one of the NSA's prime and most classified directives is to record alien communications signals . . .

Intelligence community sources who deal with the ultra-secret, ultra-sophisticated world of SIGINT (signal intelligence gathering) told ***UFO*** that one of the NSA's prime and most classified directives is to record alien communications signals, and to decode and understand the language(s) and technologies involved.

Compartmentalization

Due to the nature of this directive, the sources indicate, the mission is most likely being carried out through a deeply compartmentalized unit within the NSA, which directly interfaces with the highest levels of the overall government command structure established to deal with UFO phenomena. It would also interface with the compartments of other agencies that have been established to deal with this matter.

According to an analyst with the Army Intelligence Agency's Intelligence and Threat Analysis Center (ITAC), the NSA works closely with and receives "black" funds through ITAC. The ITAC analyst also indicates that the ITAC Imagery Division's Photogrammetric Intelligence Branch, housed in a CIA facility at the Washington Naval Yard, works with the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) in high-resolution satellite monitoring of UFOs, both on earth and in space. (A hypothetical UFO-detecting satellite is described in ***UFO***, Vol. 3, No. 5).

ITAC also works closely with Air Force Intelligence's satellite reconnaissance office and the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC). Including the NRO, these agencies are alleged to be somehow directly linked to what is known only as the Blue Berets' Rapid Deployment Inter-Service Crash Retrieval Forces, the existence of which has not yet been confirmed.[3]

Nevertheless, the NSA link to each of these agencies makes for "interesting extrapolations," the former JCS source offered, "the connections do exist." Indeed—we can speculate that communications interception from the NSA, coupled with high-resolution ground surveillance and a Special Forces crash retrieval detachment indicates an ability to monitor a UFO distress signal, pinpoint the physical location and terrain characteristics and then deploy the appropriate retrieval team.

However, such a system would also be practical and is deployed for retrieving downed classified aircraft. During the last five years, a number of aircraft have crashed, including at least one Stealth bomber, which required crash-retrieval operations to be initiated. Such operations are

highly classified themselves and involve security perimeters being put in place over large tracts of land, prohibiting entrance by unauthorized persons.

* * *

At press time, my intelligence sources who have come forward with UFO-related material were unwilling to furnish any more testimony on the subject. The mood in Washington regarding leaks no doubt contributes to this, and has for the time being somewhat stemmed the flow of information regarding this and other areas of covert operations as well.

FOOTNOTES

1. The State Department's Intelligence and Research office interfaces with the Central Intelligence Agency, NSA, etc., and is that division of State involved with covert operations. Only a limited number of people within the office are cleared for handling INR communications. An active-duty CIA official generally heads this department under the deputy secretary under whose jurisdiction the INR falls.

2. Others who could possibly have access to such information are persons possessing a Darma Blue security clearance and are involved in the government's apparent UFO infrastructure. Described by one intelligence source as "a subpoena from the President," a Darma Blue security clearance is given to individuals directing covert or special operations, and who have a need to know everything pertaining to their particular mission—no questions asked—regardless of what government agency to which a request under this clearance is made.

3. In the last issue of ***UFO***, my article on the government's UFO infrastructure was illustrated with a flow chart from a separate source than my own. My sources corroborated that chart only up to and including the names and existence of the agencies and the general back-and-forth flow of traffic from each, but did *not* corroborate the project names also listed on that chart, i.e., Aquarius, Sigma, et. al. Along with the Blue Berets, the title of Aerospace Defense Command as a separate agency has also not been confirmed.

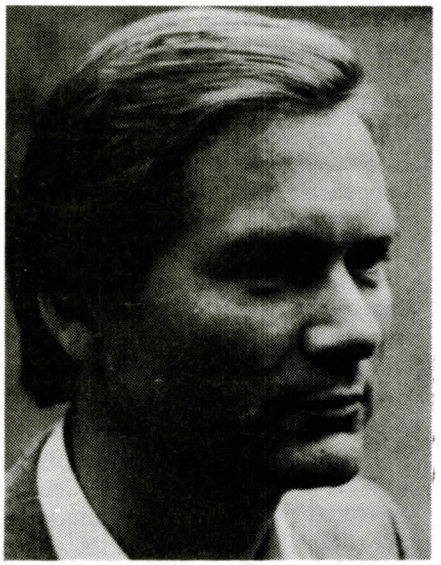
Many UFO Events On Horizon

MAY 20 & 21: CONTACTEE CONFERENCE, including camp facilities and amenities, will be held at Joshua Tree, CA. The event "will honor the pioneers of ufology, their courage and vision," says administrator Jean Duran. The contactee panel will represent four generations of contactees and abductees from 1953 to 1989; the research panel will present contemporary and historical UFO research. For more information or reservations contact Bill Hamilton at (805) 949-7798.

JUNE 29, 30; JULY 1: ROCKY MOUNTAIN UFO CONFERENCE, in its 10th year, will be hosting its annual conference at the University of Wyoming. Focusing on "Women in Ufology," the conference will present speakers Dr. Edith Fiore, Linda Howe, June Parnell and Vicki Cooper. Write Conferences and Institutes, P.O. Box 3972, Laramie, WY 82071-3972, or call (307) 766-2124.

JUNE 30; JULY 1 & 2: MUTUAL UFO NETWORK hosts its 1989 international UFO Symposium in Las Vegas, Nevada. Featured guests include Jacques Vallee, author Tim Good, Don A. Johnson, Stan Friedman, Bill Moore, Bob Oechsler and John Brandenburg. At press time, local chairman John Lear had been "disinvited" to speak at the conference and will hold an independent session presenting his and others' material. For conference registration, contact Walt Andrus at (512) 379-9216.

AUGUST 25, 26, 27: ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY holds its 16th anniversary World Conference, with a large roster of speakers including Erich Von Daniken, Vladimir Rubtsov, Vladimir Avinskiy, Zecharia Sitchin, James Deardorff and Mars researchers Vince di Pietro and Greg Molenaar. The Conference will cost $15 per day. Write Ancient Astronaut Society, 1921 St. Johns Ave., Highland Park, IL 60035-3105, or call 312-295-8899.



Timothy Good

SEPT. 14-OCT.1: "The Alien Image: Extraterrestrial Art and Artifacts," at the Soho Salon des Artistes Gallery in Manhattan, will be a special showcase event arranged by Mike Luckman of New York Center for UFO Research. Luckman says the featured display will be a full-sized replica of the UFO crash at Roswell, New Mexico, including life-sized models of the alleged alien bodies and hieroglyphic symbols found at the site. Other items of UFO art and information will be on display. Call Mike Luckman for more information, (212) 995-0384, or write NYCUFOR at 134 W. Houston St., No. 1, New York, NY 10012.

SEPT. 15, 16 & 17: 1989's NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE is themed "UFOs and the Media," and will be held in Phoenix, AZ. Among scheduled speakers are UFO Magazine co-publishers and MUFON State Section Director Don Ecker. For reservations, Call Speiser at (602) 951-3458.

NOV. 11 & 12: OMEGA Communications holds a 2-day conference in Connecticut, featuring Whitley Strieber, Bill Moore, Walt Andrus, John Keel, ***UFO***'s Cooper and Stark, plus many more. For further information, write to Omega Commmunications, P.O. Box 2051VC, Cheshire, CT 06410.

PEOPLE

In focus...

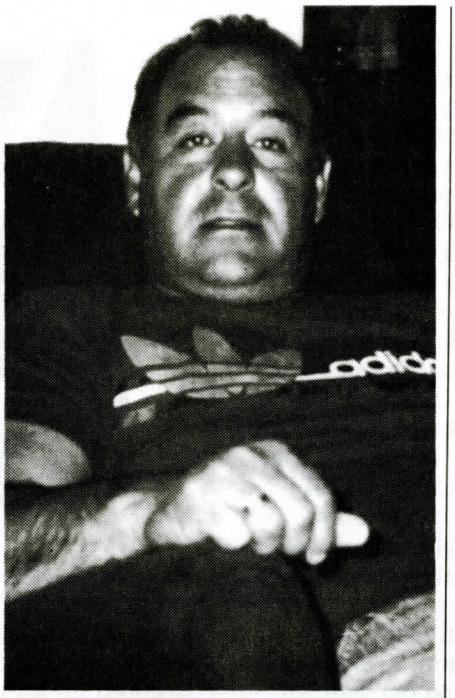
Gabe Valdez

Though no one has yet nailed down indisputable evidence of alien underground bases at Dulce, New Mexico, one man can at least claim to have hung around long enough to have observed many strange airborne objects flitting around the place, largely at night. " 'Sophisticated aircraft' is what I call them," says New Mexico State Policeman Gabe Valdez, "I don't call them UFOs."

Valdez, who's married and has two sons, has been with the State Police for twenty years, most of which have been spent at Dulce, a small, sparsely-populated town nestled in the picturesque, rugged hill country of northernmost New Mexico. By request, Valdez has recently been relocated to the Albuquerque office, where his UFO interest rarely involves more than memories of his days in Dulce and the times he has taken visitors to Archuletta Mesa, a region where an opening to the base is said to be located.

Last year, ***UFO*** was treated to a rumbling up-hill ride in his weathered pick-up truck, which refused to go more than a few yards up the steep, rocky ravine that led to the site. The passage was choked with thick, tangled underbrush, yet Valdez valiantly tried to coax the truck up and on. He wanted to point out at least one bit of what Bennewitz had called evidence. "I've seen it," Valdez said, "A burned tree branch where Paul said a nuclear craft crashed up there."

Though Valdez says he's never seen anything close to what the rumors would have UFO buffs believe, he admits that high strangeness has indeed been evident. The first glimmers came along when Valdez looked into a local cow mutilation in 1972. Other mutes occurred over a 10 year period, but stopped in 1982, just about the time Bennewitz and his research were



Gabe Valdez

cresting into the awareness of some UFO researchers.

Valdez now calls the Lear-Bennewitz info an 80-20 proposition: "There's 80 percent accuracy in that there's been a lot of military activity sighted around Archuletta Mesa," he explained. "I've seen big, dark green Chinook helicopters flying around there all the time . . . I don't have any proof (that the military is involved in UFO phenomena) but I can see it's true that the military have been here. What they're doing I don't know.

"The 20 percent is theorizing—not factual stuff. Not necessarily accurate."

But he doesn't completely write off the rumors: "Like I told you. (The info) has not only come from Bennewitz, but from other people, too, who I don't think have a connection with Bennewitz. I know four or five other people, different cases, who have been hypnotized and came up with the same information as Bennewitz. Or some may have read the Bennewitz stuff and are trying to fabricate it—that I don't know."

But his recall of "sophisticated aircraft" summons a sort of low-key amazement from the lawman. "What I saw could fly right up against the walls of the canyon," he said. "Pilots know if you do that there's a good likelihood of crashing.

"If (the craft) came from another planet, I don't know. But if we have that technology with *our* aircraft, we don't have to worry about our national security."

In brief...

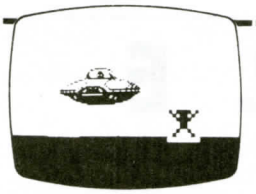
Bill Poynter

Bill Poynter is a clinical social worker specializing in marriage and family counseling. With some recent new additions to his clientele, his approach has illumined a largely-unrecognized facet of what the psychotherapeutic community has called *post-traumatic stress syndrome*.

Practicing in Van Nuys, California, Poynter was recently put in touch with organizers of the Southern California Abduction Research and Support Group, who recently channeled several abductees into his care. In assisting these unusual clients, Poynter has discovered their psychological condition closely matches that of rape or assault victims—with one outstanding difference. "Abduction is different than other forms of PTSS in that the condition can be continuing," he comments. "These people exhibit a lot of fear of the unknown, believing the stressful events can happen again at any time."

Poynter has used hypnosis, but his approach is less investigative than clinical: "I prefer a relatively indirect technique," he says. "When these people go back to the source of the trouble, digging up repressed material, I want to help them know there are ways to deal with their lives effectively," he says.

"Direct hypnosis suggests the hypnotist has the power . . . I want to empower *them* as much as possible."

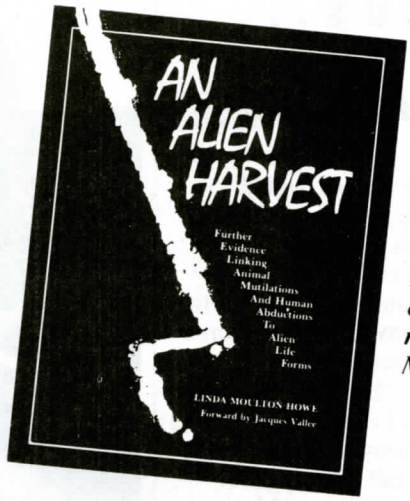


UFO . . . MediaWatch

Bay Area TV producer ***Ron Lakis*** told ***UFO*** a little something about the coming follow-up to his well-regarded 1982 documentary ***The UFO Experience***. The as-yet unnamed project is being underwritten by someone "very interested in approaching the subject a little more uniquely," Lakis comments. "When the first project was proposed, I thought there was a real need to do a serious treatment of the subject," he says. "Up until that time, most of the documentaries either tended to lean toward the sensational side of things or were a little too 'science-fantasy,' in that there were tons of 'space music' as I used to say." By contrast, Lakis pitched his first UFO production as something with high informational value as well as marketability. "During the course of that project, there was a tremendous amount of material developed that actually never got into the show," he says. "We were very careful to check and double check all of our sources, and tried very hard not to put something into the documentary because of its inflammatory possibilities, but because it had gone through a tremendous amount of scrutiny—and hopefully validation." Since, Lakis has checked out some of what failed to make the grade the first time around, but may now find its way into the new project. He speculates, "There seems to be some cracks in the door in a variety of places; we all sense a willingness to release information." But what exactly? Lakis won't specify, but does say there are one or two stories shaking out. If his ***Starrion Productions*** treatment can transcend the ongoing ufological "pissing wars," they warrant a definite closer look, he says.

MORE TV: ***Bill Kinder,*** executive producer at ***KADY*** in Oxnard, CA, just started the process of rounding up material for use in a planned half-hour broadcast on UFOs. He's calling for submissions of film, videotape, photos and documents from the UFO community , which he can review for use in the project. He's particularly interested in referrals and information on sightings in the Southern California area. Contact him at KADY-TV, 663 Maulhardt Ave., Oxnard, CA 93030 . . . People are still groaning about last year's funky ***UFO Cover-Up...Live!***, a closer look at UFOs that left many farther away. Follow-up by one transient production member can be found on the ***ParaNet*** computer bulletin board. Writer ***Barry Taff*** doesn't quite tell all, but at least offers a provocative point of view—not on the Control Factor, but on the even more enduring *human* factor.

TV: How do fundamentalist Christians view the UFO phenomenon? A bit of answer was forthcoming when ***UFO*** participated in ***Christian Broadcasting Network***'s somewhat secular ***Straight Talk*** interview show, an hour broadcast on the heels of televangelist Pat Robertson himself. Panel members—producer Lakis, contactee Penny Harper, myself and the redoubtable Phil Klass—shared UFO data and opinions with a viewing audience who delivered a surprising response to host ***Scott Ross***' leading question, *Do you think UFOs are extraterrestrial?* 56 percent said yes, 44 percent, no. Ross wrapped up with a pointedly religious opinion of his own. . . Klass, straw-hatted and puffing Marlboros, grumbled a lot about his alleged CIA "employer" that day—but not on the broadcast! . . . A ***Shock Value/Rad Productions*** joint effort produced more than 2 hours of video from the Whole Life Expo presentations of Budd Hopkins, Bill Moore and Stan Friedman, entitled ***Ufology at the Turning Point*** . . . ***Inside Edition*** derailed coverage of the Fyffe, Alabama sightings with typical tabloid tactics . . . Japan's nightly ***11 P.M.***, reportedly with 6 months of UFO programming under its belt, now wants to take a look at Linda Howe's new book, ***Alien Harvest*** . . .


AN ALIEN HARVEST
Further Evidence Linking Animal Mutilations And Human Abductions To Alien Life Forms
LINDA MOULTON HOWE
Forward by Jacques Vallee

New book by cattle mutilation researcher Linda Moulton Howe.

BOOKS: Howe's self-published effort, with 31 color photos, 75 documents and 54 articles, sells for a tidy $55 . . . Author Howard Blum expects a winter publishing date for ***OUT THERE: The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence***, working title for what he calls "generally a survey" of what the government's been up to in the area. Blum emphasizes that there are no smoking guns, however . . . ***America West Publishers*** announces a new tome on the resonating wave-form theory of life, ***Bridge to Infinity*** by Bruce Cathie . . . The filmed version of ***Intruders***, into its fourth re-write according to author Budd Hopkins, may end up simply "based on" the book (which will have foreign printings in Poland and possibly the U.S.S.R.) . . .

NEWSLETTERS: The pro-Billy Meier folks in California have come out with a quarterly newsletter, ***Pleiadian News***, part of their "dissemination of the Pleiadian teachings here in America" . . . ***Communion Newsletter*** is a recent publishing venture of Whitley Strieber and will be coming out quarterly on the abductee circuit.—***V.C.***

F O R U M

In this special Forum section, we begin a look at the origins of those titillating rumors about evil aliens and underground bases, shocking stories that remain unsubstantiated while continuing to merge with more credible, acceptable ufological research. UFO does not intend to demean the individuals seen as main sources of these rumors, but does regard such a potent mixture of rumor and reality a serious impediment to gaining any long-term ufological insight. Presenting the more prevalent facts and opinions might be one way of clearing the information stream and perhaps forcing the hand of those who secretly impress terroristic propaganda on a vulnerable public.

Into The Underground:

Bennewitz Legacy Begins With UFO Sightings At Kirtland Air Force Base

By Vicki Cooper

Just who is Paul Bennewitz? To the general public, that name means virtually nothing, but to the ufological underground, the name Paul Bennewitz easily conjures up visions of true UFO celebrity: a little bit mad scientist, a little bit victim, a dash of doomsayer and a whole raft of unsubstantiated stories that circulate madly thoughout ufology.

Bennewitz' meteor of fame first arced over the UFO community almost 10 years ago. Since first becoming involved in UFO events at Kirtland AFB while doing high technology instrumentation at his own Thunder Scientific Corp. the man has faded into semi-obscurity, another casualty of the ufological meat-grinder.

Perhaps "meat-grinder" is an all-too-appropriate word; if any one named individual can be tabbed as a main source of what is currently referred to as the Lear material—grisly talk of underground UFO bases where aliens are processing human bodies for their own nourishment, while systematically and cruelly betraying the U.S. government—it's Bennewitz.

Sightings at Manzano

But it took awhile for his claims to reach that level of horror. Bennewitz says that in 1979 he viewed several UFOs taking off and landing in the vicinity of Manzano Weapons station, adjacent to the base and near his home, and after setting up a video system was able to capture footage which allegedly shows the UFOs.

Armed with this footage and still photos of alleged alien craft, Bennewitz alerted officials at Kirtland AFB, who subsequently interviewed him at his home and later at the base itself.

In documents retrieved through the Freedom of Information Act by C.A.U.S. (Citizens Against UFO Secrecy), Bennewitz is described as having presented before Air Force officials the film and photographic "evidence" he'd collected over the months, which apparently showed a number of UFOs flying over the Albuquerque area.

Paul Bennewitz

One of the FOIA documents, a "Multipurpose Internal OSI Form" dated Oct. 28, 1980, states, "(Bennewitz) has several pieces of electronic equipment pointed at Manzano and is attempting to record high frequency electrical beam pulses . . . After analyzing the data collected by Dr. Bennewitz, Mr. Miller [Jerry Miller, GS-15, Chief Scientific Advisor for Kirtland AFB

Test and Evaluation Center] related the evidence clearly shows that some type of unidentified aerial objects were caught on film; however, no conclusions could be made whether these objects pose a threat to Manzano/Coyote Canyon areas."

Perhaps conclusions seemed premature to Miller, but in Bennewitz' mind, the UFOs were indeed an evil threat, and not just to military security at KAFB. "Paul became totally obsessed with this work and was convinced that the aliens were hostile," says John Lear, who himself promotes the same sort of information. "He was also obsessed with proving that the government was dealing with these aliens."

But according to more mainstream ufologists, the Air Force listened to Bennewitz' UFO claims as a courtesy, more interested in determining if he'd photographed identifiable classified aircraft rather than UFOs invading restricted areas. Much of his photographic "proof" was confiscated by the Air Force, according to some reports.

It is interesting to note that when C.A.U.S. received the Kirtland documents in response to their FOIA request for information about various UFO sightings alleged to have taken place on the base, the Air Force went beyond the terms of the request and supplied additional documentation *specifically revealing the story of Bennewitz' involvement.*

"Strangely enough, if OSI (Office of Special Investigations) hadn't volunteered the other documents, we wouldn't have known any better," writes Fawcett and Greenwood in ***Clear Intent***. Greenwood now adds, "The point we tried to make in the book is that here was genuine Air Force interest at a time when they were not supposed to be doing any civilian investigation." Yet C.A.U.S. got the scoop from the Air Force without even asking. As ***Clear Intent*** establishes: Had the military not generously gone beyond the terms of the original FOIA request, "The story of Bennewitz involvement would still be safely locked away."

Alien Base At Dulce? Answer Still At Large

By Bob Oechsler

The debate over the existence of an alien base located under the Archuletta Mesa near Dulce, New Mexico has raged on since the early '80s. The scenario apparently started with claims of scientist Paul Bennewitz, who was recently reported to be under "alien surveillance." According to some reports, he has also been under psychiatric care, and "he never goes out anymore."

UFO researcher John Lear has more recently resurrected the issue, and although some noted researchers vehemently denounce the Bennewitz claims, others have stepped into the fray in support of the underground base information. One such individual, William Cooper, has flooded the UFO field with reports in which he confirms the existence of an alien facility in the mountains outside of Dulce. Yet Cooper, like Lear, is assailed by most ufologists as a perpetrator of dissension and disinformation.

Gabe Valdez, a New Mexico state trooper living in Dulce, has visited the location of the alleged site on five different occasions, yet still has not seen enough evidence to convince him that such a facility exists. But he won't dismiss the possibility.

Last fall, Valdez escorted a team of scientists to the cliff area. After the trip, one of the scientists reported seeing extraordinary UFO activity at night, witnessed in the company of one of the other members of the team. He also reported evidence of a crash at the site, possibly UFO-related. The discovery of broken and partially-burned trees in the area was upstaged by the recovery of a U.S. Government-issue ink pen, indicating evidence not only of a possible UFO crash, but the possibility of a government crash-retrieval operation as well.

Further discussions about Dulce with San Francisco-based ufologist Jim McCampbell, who for several years investigated Bennewitz' astounding claims, has revealed that *not one* of those claims—embedded in a 4½-inch thick file—was ever substantiated. He suggests gross investigative incompetence on the part of an Air Force colonel who apparently investigated the claims, possibly on behalf of the military. The colonel was assisted by the former Air Force intelligence agent whose name divebombed to ignobility in the MJ-12 imbroglio—Richard Doty.

With such suspicious characters, and material that can only loosely and very dubiously be considered as "evidence," it's impossible to make conclusions about

Bob Oechsler hosts a syndicated radio segment on the UFO Phenomenon for the American Radio Network called "UFOs Today." He is an active researcher and investigator with Mutual UFO Network and an associate with the Fund for UFO Research.

the existence of an underground alien base. Conceptually, however, such a base at Dulce is not all that far-fetched. New Mexico, after all, ranks right up there at the top in terms of UFO case history. The UFO crash and recovery documentation at Roswell, largely due to the efforts of Stanton Friedman and William Moore, stands as the most thoroughly researched and corroborated case in crash-retrieval history, with over 90 witnesses interviewed. (Friedman recently received a $16,000 research grant from the Fund for UFO Research in order to determine or disprove existence of MJ-12.)

There does appear to be other evidence suggesting that Paul Bennewitz was not the only source of the Dulce claims; Lear has denied the rumor that his initial source, a female abductee, is the same female abductee connected with Paul Bennewitz. While I have not contacted either of these women, at least they have different names!

Len Stringfield's recent report on an Air Force photographer's assignment to record the close-up details of a 30-foot craft, inside and out, is indeed a benchmark of possibilities in the science of physics—the photographer reported that the inside of the craft was *ten times* the size of the space occupied on the outside! What force or dimension could account for this spatial contradiction?

And what with all the other recent events and information regarding MJ-12, Gulf Breeze, anonymous government intelligence informants and nationwide UFO radio and TV broadcasts such as "UFO Cover-Up? Live!", how long can we plead the "show me" Missouri state slogan? Something awesome seems to be taking place.

Even our children are being fed a steady diet of alien manipulation of humans. On Friday, Feb. 24 of this year, the nationally-syndicated cartoon show called "Gumby" was aired at its usual time slot. This episode showed the sudden appearance of a flying saucer, from which a swirling vortex descended and encircled Gumby, floating up and into the craft. In a small, round room, Gumby was met by two small grey aliens with large heads and big, black eyes. The aliens, standing beside an examining table, told Gumby that they needed his "vitality" because they were having trouble with their own DNA. An agreement ensued, involving a swap for technology. Sound familiar? Is someone trying to tell us something?

As the research continues, we continue to broaden our perspective. If an alien craft can be ten times larger on the inside than its outer dimensions, then the scope and capacity of the technology involved clearly suggest dimensional consideration. As for the cover-up and veil of secrecy around the UFO phenomenon, the most plausible justification to date could be the issue of economic impact, especially if we are consumed by a precarious David and Goliath technological scenario, as suggested by the Dulce underground base material. Possession of alien craft technology and the ability to duplicate it and utilize it could destroy all fossil-fuel related industries, and possibly diminish the value of precious elements as we now know them.

One thing we can all agree on is the obvious fact that we are tinkering with a cosmic Pandora's Box. Let's not forget—it could be ten times larger on the inside!

FROM THE DULCE PAPERS—*Drawing of what a witness remembers seeing when taken to the 'alien base.'*

'Alien Terror' Might Be Deadly Disinformation

By Lorene Gilliland

At the beginning of 1989, I received my copy of the January edition of ***Missing Link***, a monthly newsletter published by UFO Contact Center International (UFOCCI) in Seattle, Washington. In it was a rather shocking article entitled "Summary & Report of Status—Project Beta," written by investigator-physicist Paul Bennewitz, the man who had made many of the original claims of underground bases run by devious aliens in conjunction with our government. Bennewitz has been able to walk in the light of some credibility due to his contribution to William Steinman's book, ***UFO Crash at Aztec.***

But Bennewitz' article in the UFOCCI newsletter disturbed me greatly, making me feel as though well-cultivated seeds of *disinformation* were being planted, and would take root and induce new fears and unwarranted paranoia in UFO groups. His story presented self-conceived ideas about "saving us from the soulless alien force," and that this force is well-established on planet Earth in underground bases.

On Jan. 28, an open meeting of UFOCCI was scheduled in Seattle, and although I half-way knew what to expect after reading ***Missing Link***, I wanted to see what material would be presented.

Lorene Gilliland is an artist and writer living in Seattle, WA. While in the country working on a novel, she watched a UFO land in her field on Oct. 10, 1988. When the craft returned eight days later, "I decided to try and find out what was happening," she says. "In the next two months, the skies were pretty busy and so was I. I had to totally erase any fiction from my life."

The two-hour program produced by Aileen Edwards and associates was chock full of food for thought. It began with the MJ-12 operation list being written on a blackboard in front of us. Then we were presented with an array of oral readings, some of which we were allowed to examine afterwards. We were shown the "Dulce Papers," 14 xeroxed pages of vague description and obscure sketches of mutation tanks, baby aliens being grown in strange sacks and other bizarre aspects of what was alleged to be a particular underground base. We were told the origin of these papers was "unknown."

For the main course, we were read a long interview whose sources have asked to be kept confidential. Those interviewed not only indicated that Earth government superpowers are in league with these grey aliens in an underground base somewhere in Europe, but also mentioned involvement by the Mafia and the Pope! It *did* leave a person wondering . . .

Also on the evening's menu was a letter from the "Alien Nourishment Project," asking for first-hand information on alien dietary habits. Then a so-called cattle mutilation was offered as dessert. After all this and more, a question-and-answer period was provided in which no questions were really answered, because they couldn't be. Then it was lights out and movie time—I found this a good opportunity to leave before making an ass of myself.

Fear and Loathing . . .

Now, I wish to express my opinion of the fear-and-loathing tactics being used by many people currently associating themselves with the field of ufology. I believe Paul Bennewitz is one of those people, utilizing the openness and receptivity of UFO organizations and publications such as UFOCCI and ***Missing Link*** to pass on scenes of terror. I should state, however, that the UFOCCI meetings are very important to many of us in the Northwest, and that Aileen Edwards devotes herself wholeheartedly to guiding many through the initial impact of what some have termed the visitor experience (me included.) She also devotes considerable energy, time and money in producing a paper in which she gives everyone equal time to express their own opinion. (I have written for it under the pseudonym Rene DeSoto.) Her organization now has chapters all over the country which aid in the support and study of personal UFO and alien encounters, as well as hosting contact meetings which are closed to the public. Edwards presents the information she gathers and asks people to form their own opinions. I do not intend to discredit any of her operations; I only wish to express my concern for the direction that people like Bennewitz may be leading already emotionally-strained individuals.

Bennewitz claims to have monitored one alleged alien base for two continuous years, by means of electronic surveillance and constant reception of video transmissions from the alien's ships and underground bases. If the story had focused on just that information alone, it would have been disgestible. But it did not. Bennewitz

AERIAL RECON—Bennewitz at the cockpit of a small airplane, where he's checked out alleged alien activity.

proposes an all-out war, the total anihillation of these "mad dog" invaders. He calls on us as Americans to band together against these totally deceptive, death-oriented greys.

Nazi Overtones?

Yeah, right! Let's all go out and join with the government to kill this menace to American society. Where do I sign up? To marshal support for Mom, apple pie and the American way, Bennewitz engages our emotions of fear, hatred and prejudice. His suggestions evoke the essence of Nazi Germany, another "patriotic," nationalistic call-to-arms to rid the planet of an inferior race, something I seem to remember of recent Earth history.

When I reached the Bennewitz story in William Steinman's otherwise invaluable research book, and read about the dastardly alien deeds, I found it all scary but a little hard to swallow. My first thought was, "Someone has gotten to that boy. I don't know if it's aliens or the government, but someone has gotten to him . . ."

Now it appears it's just the tip of the iceberg of what Bennewitz and others like him are capable of unleashing. Only a few years ago, Bennewitz was labeled a kook and was highly discredited. Now, in light of so much new information on government UFO cover-up and scandal, it's not surprising that this type of disinformation is being fed to the public and in turn impressing and infilitrating the minds of those in UFO organizations.

Disinformation was once explained to me as a lie masquerading as the truth, then pulling a 180-degree turn and becoming the truth appearing to be a lie. What appears on TV is a good example of how this works. The images are so real that they can sell us anything, yet are based oftentimes on full or semi-falsehoods dreamed up in Hollywood or on Madison Avenue. Take the popular TV series, "War of the Worlds," which just happens to parallel the type of information Bennewitz purveys. In this new weekly take-off on an old sci-fi movie, a group of young and attractive special forces government agents runs around doing a pretty successful job in stopping this alien threat to all that is sacred.

Image Formation

After seeing an episode recently, I was all but convinced that Bennewitz was on the staff of "War of the Worlds" writers. What we are being shown on a mass media level is that the aliens are *bad* and that the well-armed "agents" going after them are *good*. The images we form from this may or may not have anything to do with reality—to me, it appears to be just another government plot to throw us off the track. For years now, the government has been telling people who have had UFO experiences first-hand and have seen aliens with their own eyes that the really *haven't* seen these things, that they're crazy or victims of mass hysteria. But now things on the "alien front" are coming to a head, the pimple has to pop sooner or later and now the government is working on a new plan. Since they've found they can't make us *not* believe in flying saucers or space people, they're trying like hell to scare us off or re-direct the energy into a vein of skepticism and distrust. Perhaps the government has a tricky little code name for it: Operation SCARED— *S*abotage *C*ivilian *A*lien *R*eactions by *E*ngendering *D*istrust. Of course I am just making this up, but it does seem to fit!

Fear, hatred and intimidation have always been the most successful weapons in any form of combat. In 50,000 years of human life, very little has changed.

Fear, hatred and intimidation have always been the most successful weapons in any form of combat. In 50,000 years of human life as we know it on this planet, very little has changed. We are still mighty afraid of things that go bump in the night—and if that's not enough to worry about, we have a fundamentalist version of the Almighty God to fear, a God who oversees our every move and helps us make judgements on ourselves and others. In my opinion, there is no separation of Church and State. If one were to collapse, the other in turn would go to hell.

Small Town Racists

In the same way, if entrenched racism were to disappear, the government's Operation SCARED would also fall apart! It was kind of ironic—I received my copy of the newsletter with Bennewitz' wild claims on Martin Luther King day, right after I had left a small-town pub where

I'd witnessed two men happily talking about it being "open season on niggers" day. I asked them why, and was told because they are a different color from us, didn't belong here and should go back to Africa where they came from. I laughed aloud and thought to myself, "Boy, are these good ol' boys in for a surprise!" and then hustled out of there before I got myself in trouble.

When I got home, the newsletter was awaiting me in the mailbox. Upon finishing it, I laughed out loud and yelled to the sky: "The only good alien is a DEAD alien!" I didn't think anyone could take the man seriously, and yet on the last Saturday in January discovered I was wrong. I also had the disturbing feeling that I was the only one in the room with a contrary opinion. Bennewitz claims to have developed a beam weapon that will bring down alien ships, and says the weapon is marketable. After sitting in on that open meeting of UFOCCI, I think it would be fair to say that if Bennewitz had been there selling it, everyone in the room would have bought. It's the alleged "greys" who are held responsible for all this ungodly traipsing around in the dark, yet they are said to make up only two percent of the alien activity on our planet. Why, then, shall we give them so much power? Because we are afraid? Just who is sparking that fear?

The inculcated scenario of abductions and mind implants can indeed set up dominoes of paranoia—but it's not the aliens I would be afraid of. Couldn't those in authority use the scenario to foster an all-out manhunt? *You know who you are . . . the greys are liable to flip the switch and turn you into an android alien Army, bent on destruction of God, country and everything sacred . . . What, then, should we do with you? . . . You can't be trusted . . . You are marked . . . You are one of them . . . Concentration camps might not be such a bad idea . . . There, the government can keep an eye on you and do experiments to find out how alien you really are! . . . That might keep the planet safe . . . Besides, building these camps might be good business . . . lots of new federal jobs . . . Real good for the nation's economy . . .*

You get the idea. But if my theory is correct, we really have nothing to worry about. I don't think we're advanced enough to be any trouble at all. And perhaps it's our turn to be the chimpanzee. What I do know is that we cannot fight a technologically advanced civilization and expect to win; the American Indians tried and failed. They were conquered and absorbed by the almighty white man, and most of their peoples were slaughtered. Now their ancestors reside in a softened kind of concentration camp known as reservations.

In the last 50 years, close encounter stories have become commonplace, or at least more frequent. More and more of us have had some kind of strange experience which we try to fit into our framework of reality. More and more of us are looking up and knowing we're not alone. More and more of us want to know what the government knows but won't tell us. It's the government that does the real damage in this situation—the truth of the matter is that the largest percentage of aliens aren't hurting anyone, other than blowing a few minds, perhaps. The aliens just get in their vehicles, come here to visit, collect a few samples and split. In many cases they cultivate relationships and even friendships; their actions seem very human to me. And with the attitude of prejudice on the planet as strong as it is, you can hardly blame them slipping in covertly. To hell with their motives. They know what their motives are.

It's our own motives we should be concerned with. Paul Bennewitz and others like him who lean toward this kind of terroristic sensationalism ought to limit their brand of poison pen to the supermarket tabloids. Serious UFO investigation has neither the time nor the room nor the patience for it. The kind of b.s. he hands out would be impossible even for the aliens to swallow—and I'm told they'll eat anything.

But this intense brand of fear is conquerable, through the unsinkable human spirit. If it weren't conquerable, people like me couldn't continue to investigate the phenomenon and keep a sense of humor at the same time.

Bennewitz' Allegations May Have Factual Basis

Many dependable UFO researchers denounce the entire underground bases-hostile aliens scenario, some questioning Bennewitz' mental stability. Yet his wild claims have some basis in legitimate UFO events which continue to trouble the military. In a number of instances, "unidentifieds" have invaded restricted airspace and compromised otherwise secure weapons installations, if FOIA documents validating such events can be believed. Some people further believe that because he got too close to the real story, Bennewitz was quickly "handled" by the intelligence faction of government. "I firmly believe he was on to something but by design was distracted and discredited," says Army ROTC Sergeant Clifford Stone, another renegade involved in UFO phenomena.

Paul Bennewitz could not be reached for comment. His son Jeff says his father has not been responding to other media inquiries. Jeff Bennewitz described his father's life-long interest in the UFO subject, however: "I remember when I was a child he used to pull out scrapbooks and photos filled with UFOs," he said. "But my father has been quiet with his research. He's not the type to take out banner headlines." And, refuting one counter-rumor, Jeff Bennewitz said his father has never been hospitalized for mental difficulties.

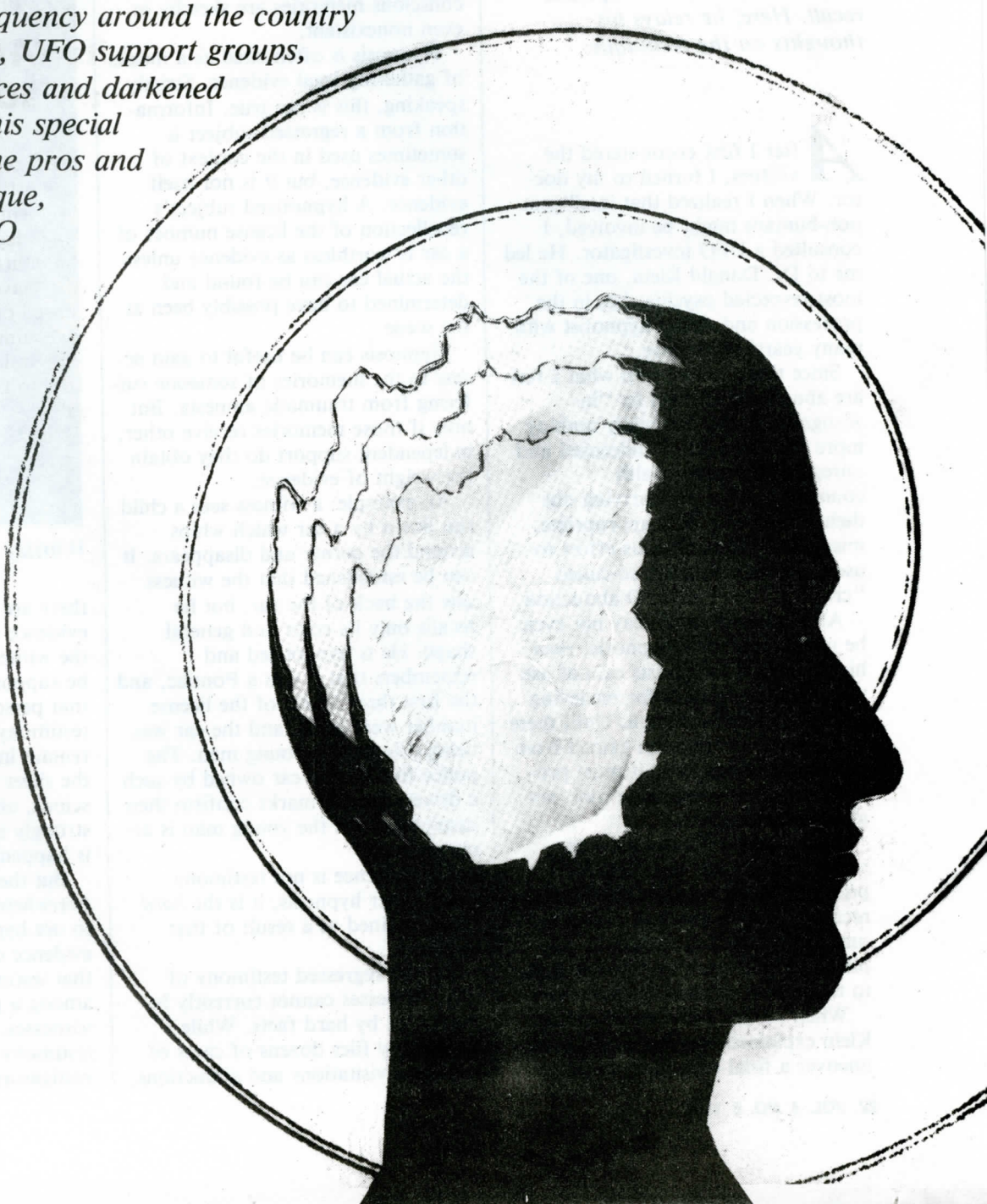
In the early stages of the saga, ufologist Jim McCampbell interviewed Bennewitz, obtaining many incredible details about the alleged alien bases and active though regretted participation by high-level agencies of the U.S. government. Lt. Col. Ernest Edwards, security official at Kirtland Air Force Base and one of the principals involved in the official meetings with Bennewitz, at one point indicated some sympathy for him and did verify the UFO incidents that had occurred at the base.

When contacted again by ***UFO*** for their comments, both Mc Campbell and Lt. Col. Edwards refused to discuss any aspect of the matter. —***V.C.***

HYPNOTIC REGRESSION

How reliable are accounts of UFO experiences recalled through hypnotic regression?

As an investigative tool to aid UFO witnesses in remembering "missing time" occurrences, hypnotic regression is being used with increasing frequency around the country and in universities, UFO support groups, psychologist's offices and darkened living rooms. In this special section, we examine pros and cons of the technique, from both the UFO witnesses' and researchers' points of view.



Abductee's Perspective:

Technique Out-Of-Control

By Whitley Strieber

Whitley Strieber's bestsellers ***Communion*** *and* ***Transformation*** *read like a tale-spinner's ongoing travelogue into his own weirdly-populated unconscious, which his brush with hypnotic regression first opened up. But like many, Strieber claims largescale alien memories apart from hypnotic recall. Here, he relays his thoughts on the technique.*

After I first encountered the visitors, I turned to my doctor. When I realized that intelligent non-humans might be involved, I consulted a UFO investigator. He led me to Dr. Donald Klein, one of the most respected psychiatrists in the profession and also a hypnotist with many years' experience.

Since then, I have seen what I feel are abuses perpetrated by "investigators" who are really nothing more than part-time, unlicensed and unregulated mental health counselors. They are carrying out their activities in an inappropriate, misguided and dangerous effort to use hypnosis to build a so-called "credible" case for UFO abduction.

Abduction research may not even be possible utilizing hypnosis; even highly trained hypnotists cannot use the technique reliably for retrieving basic factual information. Until there is a base of information gained from unhypnotized subjects, it must properly remain a therapeutic tool, not an investigative one.

The so-called "abduction narrative," which has been gained primarily from hypnotically-induced recall, probably does not reflect actual experience, but rather the application of the subject's worst fears to their most enigmatic experiences.

When he first interviewed me, Dr. Klein explained why we would never uncover a final explanation through my hypnosis. This is because the regressed subject is susceptible to cues from the hypnotist, to an unknown degree. Thus, it can never be known how much even the most objective hypnotist has influenced the outcome of the regression. However, we did have my extensive conscious memories to use as a base. Often conscious memories are sketchy or even nonexistent.

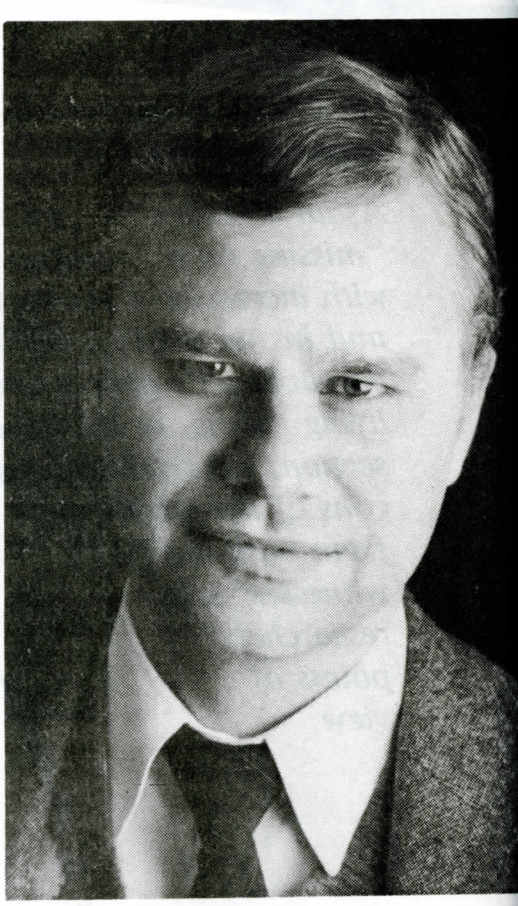
Hypnosis is often cited as a means of gathering legal evidence. Strictly speaking, this is not true. Information from a regressed subject is sometimes used in the context of other evidence, but it is not itself evidence. A hypnotized subject's recollection of the license number of a car is worthless as evidence unless the actual car can be found and determined to have possibly been at the scene.

Hypnosis can be useful to gain access to the memories of someone suffering from traumatic amnesia. But only if those memories receive other, independent support do they obtain the weight of evidence.

An example: a witness sees a child run down by a car which whips around the corner and disappears. It can be established that the witness saw the back of the car, but he recalls only its color and general shape. He is hypnotized and remembers that it was a Pontiac, and the first three letters of the license number were XYZ, and the car was being driven by a young man. The police find such a car owned by such a driver. Impact marks confirm their suspicions, and the young man is arrested.

The evidence is not testimony given under hypnosis, it is the *hard facts* obtained as a result of that testimony.

But the regressed testimony of UFO witnesses cannot currently be confirmed by hard facts. While I have in my files dozens of cases of witnessed visitations and abductions,



Whitley Strieber

there are absolutely none where evidence of what took place while the witness was with the visitors can be supported in any way except by that person's own testimony or the testimony of witnesses. Hard facts remain impossible to obtain. Still, the sheer weight of the existing conscious, unhypnotized testimony strongly suggests that something real is happening.

But there remains an enormous, overwhelming difficulty with trying to use hypnotized testimony as evidence of real events, even when that testimony agrees in particulars among a group of unconnected witnesses. This is especially true of testimony obtained by investigators—even professionals—

whose views on UFOs are known by their subjects, because there is obviously no way to tell whether or not the subject has a hidden wish to comply with the known beliefs of the hypnotist—a wish that will be greatly magnified by the highly suggestible state that the subject will enter when regressed.

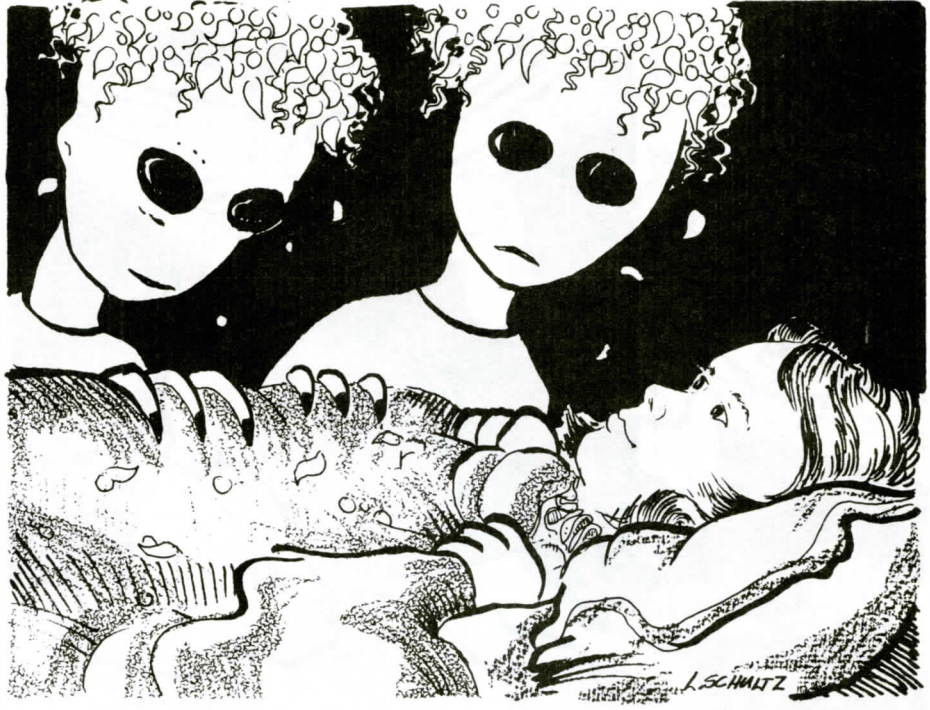
But hypnosis as a counseling device—that's another story. I think it has a very useful place as a therapeutic tool, as it is uniquely capable of enabling the subject to break fear-amnesia.

If anyone is to counsel people in situations as sensitive as that of a close-encounter witness, it seems essential that the counselors involved be trained, subject to confidentiality requirements and governed by a peer-review process. There is a tendency among abduction researchers—largely untrained in the scientific method and unrestrained by licensing—to be less-than-objective in their treatment of witnesses and to summarily dismiss evidence not consistent with their previous findings.

I have come to believe that many techniques used by amateur investigators are not just suspect, but disastrous. They amount to a form of unintentional but devastatingly effective brainwashing that denies witnesses access to the truth of their experiences as they originally perceived them. I define the word "amateur" very narrowly; it means someone who has not been formally trained and who does not answer to any professional review board.

Some of what I have heard from witnesses reveals what problems can be caused by this. One witness wrote, "My fear is that if I contact you, I will be kicked out of the . . . group." She added, "I have turned to your book for comfort even though I am not supposed to read it." This sounds more like the concerns of a member of a religious organization than of someone connected with a group of witnesses to an experience as unknown as close encounter, and reflects the propensity of less-than-impartial investigators to compel witnesses to think in compliance with their pet theories.

The "experimenter effect" is a well-known problem in behavioral science research. In his book, ***Experimenter Effects in Behavioral Research***, (Irvington Press, 1976),



FLOWER HEADS—*An abductee remembers encountering beings with foliage growing out of their heads, and dirt falling on her when they bent over her in bed, an example of testimony that indicates strangeness far and above the classic abduction story given under hypnosis.*

There is a tendency among abduction researchers—largely unrestrained by licensing—to be less than objective in their treatment of witnesses ...

Dr. Robert Rosenthal states, "the expectations of the scientist are likely to affect the choice of the experimental design and procedure in such a way as to increase the likelihood that his expectation or hypothesis will be supported." But there are no experimental designs in abduction research, and no controls, protocols or standards, per se. It is a matter of amateur investigators hypnotizing people and reporting the results when they tell stories compatible with the investigators' theories.

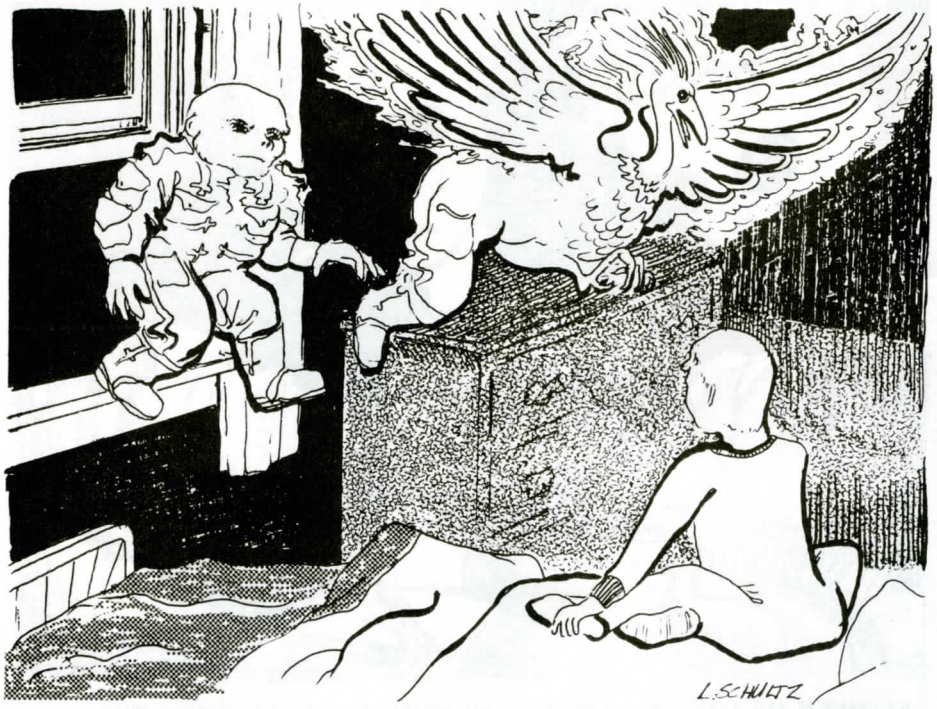
Right now, a limited scenario of abduction appears to be in fashion among such investigators. The scenario centers around sexual activity and renders stories of women being given gynecological examinations and having their ova extracted by a form of amniocentesis. Men are having semen extracted by a painful vacuum process or are being subjected to sessions of sexual intercourse with aliens—often quite peculiar-looking ones.

I am not trying to deny that witnesses have reported terrible things in connection with their close encounters. But nothing is going to be proved one way or the other by investigators who seem driven almost to a state of hysteria by the apparent horrors their studies have unearthed.

Another correspondent of mine wrote, "When I drew a picture of the object they [the abductors] wanted to put on the inside of my thigh, (the investigator) seemed to be disappointed or dismissed it because it didn't match any design or shape he had seen before."

At this stage of investigation on this enigma, such a stance by an investigator is clearly very premature and not reflective of a properly objective outlook. A good researcher must maintain a stance of absolute objectivity about the matter under study. And he or she must not be to quick to seek for results when, in fact, little is known.

When the free narratives are examined, it quickly becomes obvious that the witness experience is vastly



***BIRDMEN**—Another "high strangeness" abduction memory recounts short, squat aliens who turn into beautiful birds of paradise mid-air.*

The point of publishing witness testimony is not to make it seem credible and believable, but to expose it as it really is. Unless we do this, we have no chance at getting at the truth.

complicated and full of unknowns. The scenario mentioned above, with its general focus on the reproductive and genetic details found in some abduction accounts, may also be a premature reference point for investigators. Of the 690 narratives sent to me by ***Communion*** and ***Transformation*** readers, only a few appear to support these present theories of abduction. The vast majority instead describe perceptions and experiences far stranger than any reported by mainstream abduction researchers. But they are not simply unconscious processes; many of them involve multiple witnesses. In fact, just under *half* of our narratives mention some sort of independent witness at the outset of the encounter. Many of these witnesses have been contacted and their stories corroborated.

Some abduction narrative examples that suggest major overlooked unknowns:

"I knew they were aliens because they had flowers and plants growing out of their heads. When they would bend over, I felt the dirt from the tops of their heads falling on me."

"They showed me arms and legs (of their type) growing out of big, aluminum pots."

"All of a sudden the little man turned into a bird of paradise."

"They wanted me to marry a big bug."

These strange but repeated themes certainly do not suggest a study by a coldly objective group of alien scientists. They suggest that we have a lot of questions still to answer.

When I wrote ***Transformation***, I was religious about including every bizarre detail, no matter how crazy it made me look and how much ammunition it gave my detractors. Why? Because we do not know what is true, and until we do we *must not* edit testimony or it becomes absolutely worthless, even as an aid in developing effective therapeutic strategies.

The point of publishing witness testimony is not to make it seem credible and believable, but to expose it *as it really is*. Unless we do this, we have no chance at all of getting at the truth.

Since I wrote ***Communion***, I have received over 7,000 letters, thousands of which contain extensive narratives of experience. The highest incoming volume has been recorded in the three months after my new book ***Transformation*** appeared. The high-level strangeness of many of the episodes recorded in that book opened a floodgate of response. This happened because my testimony was closer than ever before to what witnesses are *actually* perceiving.

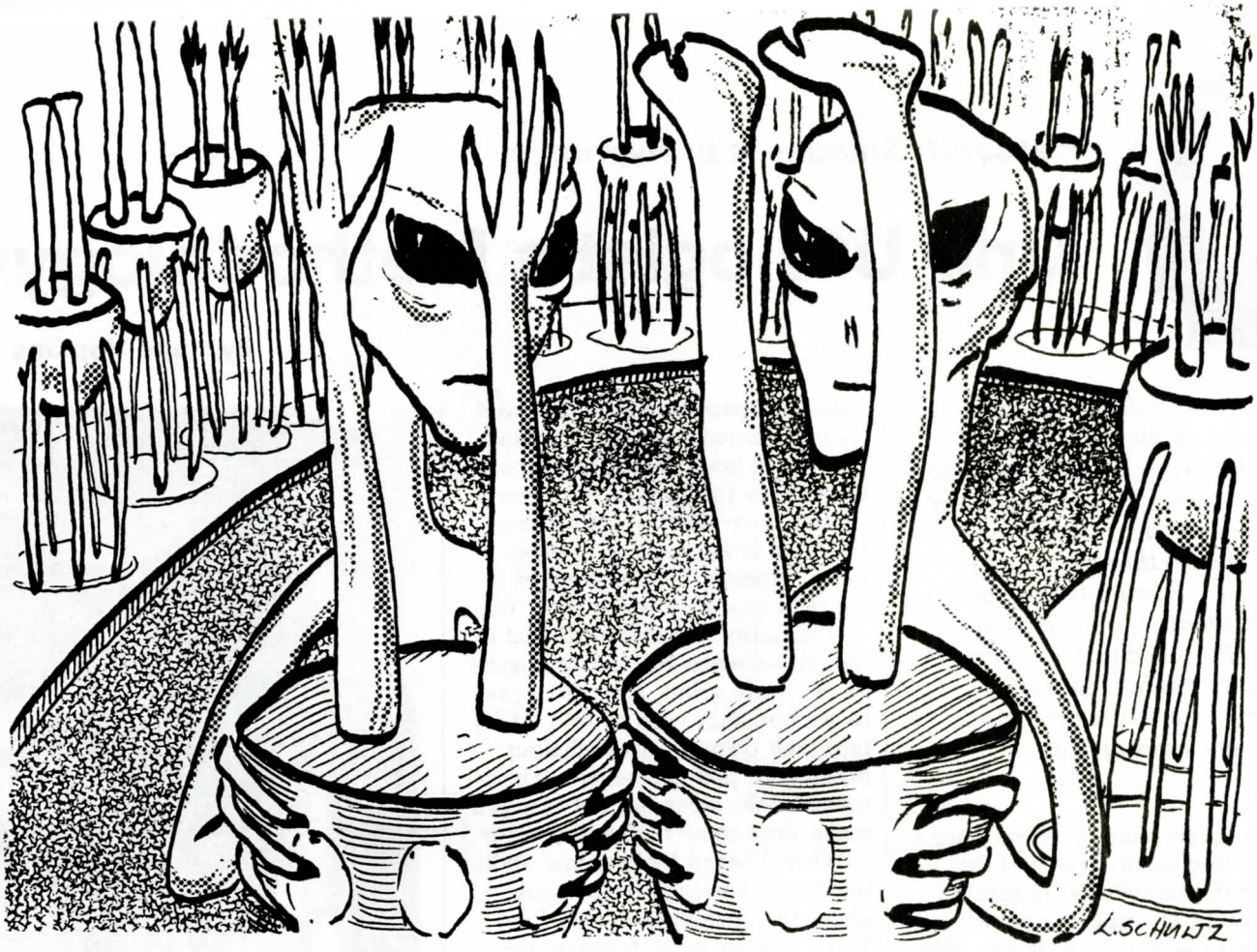
Because of the high-level strangeness of the witnesses' actual material and their pervasive fear of ridicule, the UFO community must create an atmosphere of absolute openness to all reports, and not edit narratives prematurely. Witnesses must not be made to fear rejection or actually be dismissed from support groups because of the strangeness of their reports. Another witness complains of an investigator, "He and his associates make no secret they think I'm prime material for the looney lounge." This individual also claims that she was dismissed from her "abductee" group for her beliefs and ideas.

The reason that this kind of thing happens is that investigators are looking very hard for consistent groups of facts, while witnesses are looking for support and counseling. These are two very different objectives and do not mix.

No mental health professional would ever make his feelings obvious to a patient, let alone dismiss one from a therapy group. And yet the threat and actuality of dismissal seems to be a part of many "abductee" groups.

A woman recently called a well-known investigator to report an experience and ask if she should be hypnotized. When she tried to tell her story, the investigator kept interrupting her to ask if she had been given a gynecological examination by the aliens. Finally she gave up, realizing that this was the only thing he cared about.

We have under 50 narratives on file which report gynecological examination by aliens, although many correspondents report their interest in observing or manipulating their sexual organs. Among unhypnotized



Art by Loren Schultz

STRANGE GARDEN—Some abductees remember seeing alien hands and legs growing out of huge pots.

correspondents, only one even mentions a needle entering the abdomen for an apparent amniocentesis. More often, witnesses report examination of their heads.

Are researchers interested in alien examination of sexual organs because this is actually a central feature of the encounter experience, or because sexual organs are a central concern of human beings?

It would seem that nobody except a professionally trained hypnotist—preferably one with the credentials and ethical considerations of a mental health professional—should hypnotize any UFO witness for any reason, and then only for therapeutic purposes. Both free and regressed narratives should be interpreted by behavioral psychologists and other professionals skilled in the process.

Present theories about the nature and content of the experience should be called into most rigorous question and the community should open its mind to high-level strangeness.

Close encounter witnesses are often a deeply troubled and vulnerable group of people. They live, many of them, with bizarre memories that they must keep secret. Every night, they must face their questions and their fears. And they must do this alone.

If counseling is to be offered by non-professionals then the UFO community should create a contract including a confidentiality requirement to be signed by the counselor involved, and counselors should accept the legal liability that such a contract would imply.

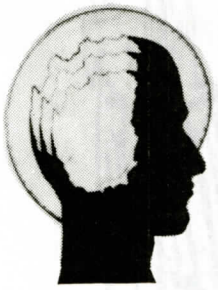
Lest it be assumed that investigators already adhere to high standards of confidentiality, I would like to point out some recent lapses. In a magazine article, an investigator mentioned the true first name of a witness, and offered sufficient details of her testimony for her to be immediately recognizeable among her personal friends, and among her acquaintances in the UFO community. He then stated his objections to her "religious" interpretation of her experiences.

She was deeply hurt by this and her standing among her peers was damaged by the fact that the highly-respected investigator had disclosed a negative opinion of her.

One of the witnesses mentioned in a recent book wrote to me that "(The investigator) was present as a guest and observer at a hypnosis regression" of the witness, "and she was asked not to reveal any of the findings. Our experience has never been published until a couple of months ago. It was done behind our backs . . . (this investigator) has made us look like fools and left us open for public ridicule." The fact that this witness had reported her experience verbally before a meeting of UFO investigators by no means justified its being made public without her permission.

Close-encounter witnesses should be offered the same level of confidentiality by the UFO community that mental health professionals offer their patients and that behavioral scientists assure their research subjects. Their narratives are one of the community's most precious resources. It must not be abused, and the witnesses courageous enough to bring forward their stories must be treated with the greatest respect.

If otherwise, this resource will be lost.



Research Standards in Hypnosis:

One Ufologist's Methodology

By Budd Hopkins

Considered ufology's leading authority on alien abduction, Budd Hopkins has accrued many years' worth of valuable data by dogged pursuit of the elusive phenomenon through witness testimony. Hundreds of abductees have submitted to his probings, many allowing Budd to hypnotize them into hidden reaches of memory where often the most significant clues appear.

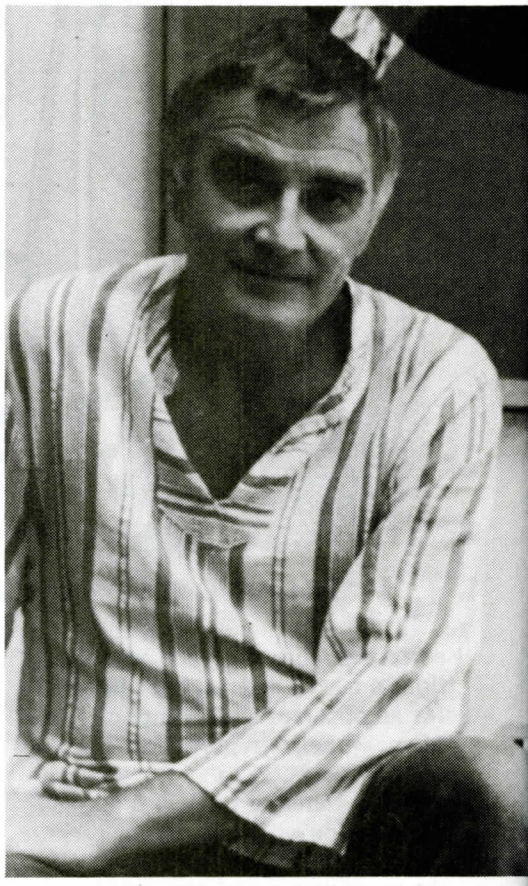
It has been nearly 15 years since I first slogged my way into the tangled thicket of UFO research, and a calm, retrospective glance now seems appropriate. In my 1981 book ***Missing Time***, I explained that my curiosity about UFOs had originally been triggered by my own "daylight disc" sighting near Provincetown, Massachusetts, in 1964. However, it took 11 years and the 1975 North Hudson Park UFO landing case before I turned from being merely an interested reader of UFO books and newsletters to a new role as an active investigator. And within six months, to my great surprise, I found myself investigating a UFO abduction case, the first of hundreds I've looked into since then. At the time, I sensed that this type of incident was, potentially, the most important source of information on the UFO phenomenon. It's a judgement I'm even more certain of today.

When I began in-depth research in 1975, I had no preconceptions. I am an artist by profession, so these new investigations provided an outlet for my non-emotional, non-mystical impulses. I was free to be a scientist, a detective, a seeker after literal, provable truth. But I was aware that the field of UFO research was awash with confusion. Contactees told of lolling in interplanetary swimming pools with long-haired Venusian space brothers. Paranoid types predicted imminent invasions of vicious, body-snatching aliens. Conspiracy theorists of every persuasion spun their complex tales, fingering at one time or another every respected UFO researcher in the field as a government spy. The vast majority of those interested in the phenomenon had an ideological ax or two to grind, and it was easy to see how they tried to fold UFOs into their own previous religious, mystical or political beliefs. (Unfortunately, the scene has not changed much since those mad earlier times.)

When I began looking into abductions, the most significant book about the phenomenon was John Fuller's ***Interrupted Journey***, the cool, objective 1966 study of the Betty and Barney Hill case. In fact, Fuller was so careful and objective that virtually nothing in his book requires deletion or an apology today, 23 years later. This classic work is my own candidate for the most important UFO book ever written. ***Interrupted Journey*** delineates the quintessential UFO abduction scenario, which involves a period of (enforced?) amnesia, paralysis, capture and physical examination by the UFO occupants, who pay particular attention to the human reproductive system. Fuller includes riveting transcripts of the hypnotic regression sessions which aided the Hills' recollections of their experiences and helped alleviate their post-traumatic symptoms.

In the later 1970s, my own ongoing investigations replicated the Hill case findings, but I discovered several new and startling patterns which earlier investigators had apparently overlooked.

The Steven Kilburn case, among others, led me to conclude that one might, after an abduction, remember infinitely fewer details than the Hills recalled. UFO abductions, therefore, might be much more widespread than we previously suspected.



Budd Hopkins

I discovered another pattern in the very similar scars that many abductees bear on their bodies after certain operations are carried out by the UFO occupants. I also discovered the unsettling fact that abduction is not a one-time event; instead, it appeared to be an ongoing process, beginning in childhood and recurring later in life.

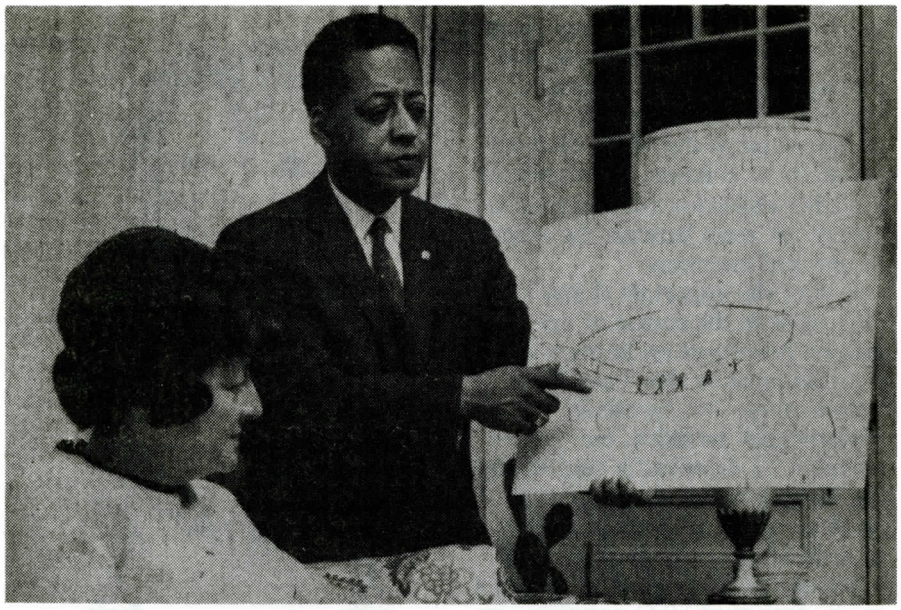
These discoveries I considered so important that they deserved presentation in book form, and so I wrote ***Missing Time*** to alert other researchers and the public at large. In offering this new information, I wanted to see if my findings would be replicated by others. After an in-

tervening eight years, I am gratified at the accuracy of my earlier findings and their general acceptance within the field. There is nothing in ***Missing Time*** which I feel requires deletion or an apology, a situation which gives me confidence in both my methods and my scientific objectivity.

My investigatory method is simple. I try to discover everything I can about a given case or individual reporter through conventional interviews and visits to relevant sites. Once I exhaust these approaches, and if there is a period of amnesia involved, I turn to hypnotic regression to help fill in the blanks. I have conducted many hypnotic sessions myself, though all the hypnotic sessions prior to the end of 1983 were conducted by cooperating psychologists and psychiatrists. In a few instances I simply sit in while someone else does the work, while in other cases a psychiatrist may observe while I conduct the hypnosis. In roughly one-fourth of the abduction cases I've investigated, the subject has recalled virtually all of his or her basic abduction scenario prior to hypnosis.

My experience, as well as that of independent researchers such as Dr. Thomas Bullard, shows that no differences exist in the material that is recalled in any of these various situations. Bullard's work clearly demonstrates that the process of hypnosis is not a factor in the content of UFO abduction recollection (see next article in this section). It should also be mentioned here that in 25 borderline but possible abduction cases, we have used hypnosis with *no* abduction scenarios coming to light. I am sure that these 25 individuals are not abductees, and their cases attest to the scientific objectivity of our use of the hypnotic process.

Perhaps the most basic misconception about hypnosis holds that one's hypnotically-recalled memories and one's normal memories are somehow innately different. They are not. Normal recollection, obviously, can be inaccurate, so can hypnotic recall. *All testimony*, hypnotically elicited or otherwise, is affected to some extent by the questioner. In a court trial, a calm, non-leading judge can elicit one kind of information, a bullying prosecutor another. A lover sharing one's bed may inquire with a special kind of intimacy, eliciting yet another kind of recollection. All of this is self-evident with regard to hypnosis, but it is not so easily recognized that with normal recall exactly the same problems exist.



1961—More than 25 years have passed since Betty and Barney Hill ushered in a modern era of hypnotic regression. UFO investigators applied the technique to find out more about their prototypical abduction.

In roughly one-fourth of the abduction cases I've investigated, the subject has recalled virtually all of his or her abduction scenario prior to hypnosis.

From the very first year of my interest in UFOs, I have employed the interview technique which has the greatest chance of success in discovering the truth. As an interviewer and/or hypnotist, I first provide a friendly, non-challenging atmosphere of simple curiosity about "what happened." My questioning is resolutely non-leading, and I use neutral, unemotional language. For example, one must avoid using words like "abductor," or "alien" or "humanoid," since they subtly color the entity with clear—possibly false—ominous suggestions. One must also avoid other words which subtly color the entity with clear—possibly false—friendly connotations, terms such as "space brother" or "visitor."

I am appalled to see people capitalizing the "V" and referring to "Visitors." The capital letter represents a kind of deification, paralleling the "G" in God and thus forcing upon the witness a misleading, even intimidating view of what I choose to refer to neutrally as "UFO occupants" or "figures." The point of the guidelines I've listed above is that they should apply to *any* involvement with witnesses, whether their recall is or is not being aided by hypnosis.

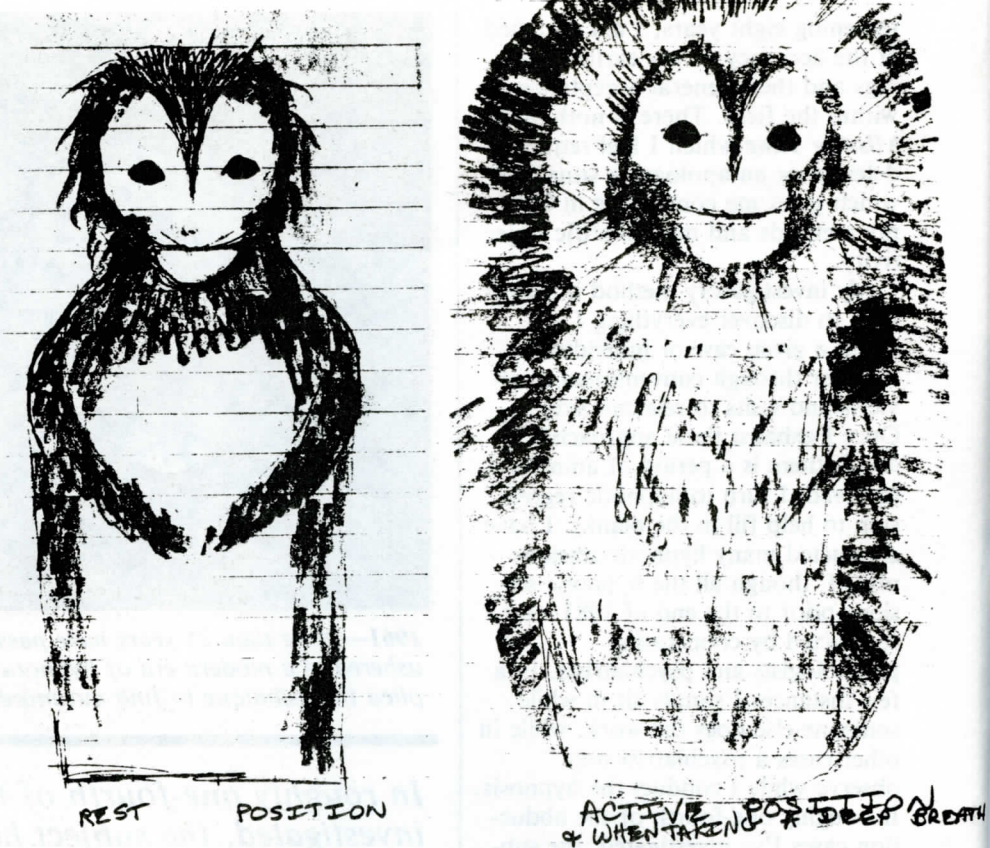
It is hardly necessary to state that we only receive answers to the particular questions we ask. My more wide-ranging investigations in the past five years have allowed a handful of forthright abductees to mention a previously unmentionable facet of the physical examinations they underwent at the hands of the UFO occupants: that is, the examinations' apparent reproductive and genetic focus. Neither I, nor apparently any other investigators had routinely inquired into that sensitive area of health and recollection, so most witnesses never felt inclined to volunteer such information. The data which underlies my later book ***Intruders*** is of the sort that only surfaces when a particular trust is established with the abductee. The genetic focus of UFO interest is of absolutely crucial im-

portance, yet it only becomes visible if the investigator is willing to ask probing and pertinent questions. Much like the now-familiar phenomenon of the widespread sexual abuse of children, this aspect of the UFO abduction phenomenon lay hidden for years beneath the weight of unasked questions.

One of the important things I discovered in the course of my abduction investigations in the late '70s is a phenomenon that I call the "cover story," or, in classic psychological parlance, the "screen memory." I described a case in ***Missing Time*** in which a teenage girl recalled talking to a beautiful deer with dark, compelling eyes. Under hypnosis the deer turned out to be a small, dark-eyed UFO occupant. In another case, a man driving on a Long Island parkway remembered being passed by a huge, brightly-lit, 18-wheeler trailer-truck. The rig appeared to topple over in front of him. Panicked, he swerved around it, and when he looked in his rear-view mirror the road was bare. The wrecked semi had vanished! His drive home was nearly two hours longer than usual, and a UFO abduction turned out to have been the cause. The 18-wheeler was a screen memory for the approaching UFO.

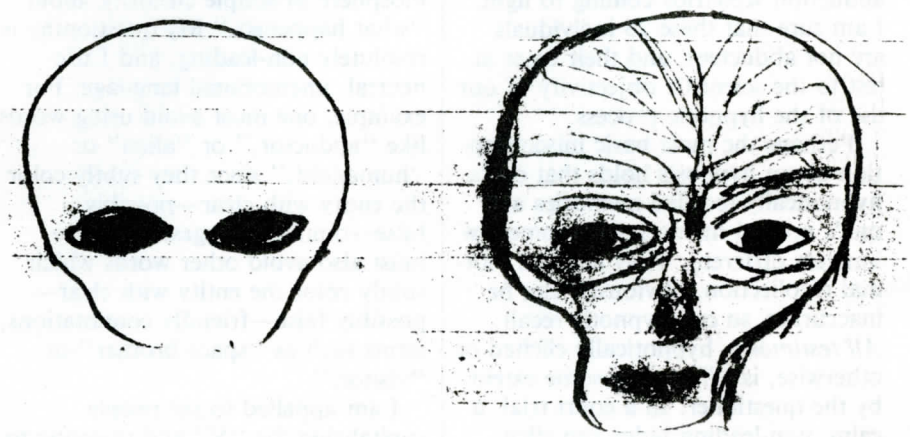
Strange, four-foot owls have revealed themselves under hypnosis to be large-eyed UFO occupants, and odd boats and houses have emerged as landed UFOs. The function of a cover story is to *soften* a disturbing memory and render it more benign and acceptable. One never finds a screen memory working the other way—escalating the terror. Thus, an abductee would never remember being involved in, say, a scene of revolting carnage with bullet-torn bodies as a screen for a conventional UFO abduction and physical examination. Like the other mechanisms I uncovered and wrote about in ***Missing Time***, the "cover story" phenomenon has subsequently appeared in the investigations of many other researchers across the world. But more important here is the fact that screen memories clearly establish the need for hypnosis if we are ever to know the whole truth about any abduction experience.

A second and even more basic reason for the use of hypnosis is the idea of "missing time" itself—a



'SCREENED?'—*Drawings of a creature that may have served as a screen memory within the witness' recollection of her abduction.*

Screen memories clearly establish the need for hypnosis if we are ever to know the whole truth about any abduction experience.

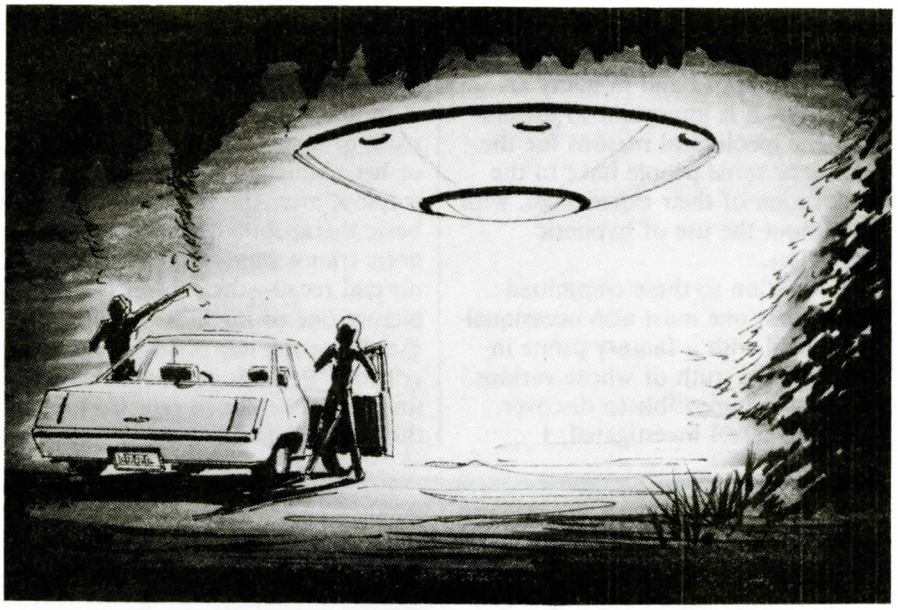


period of memory loss that often accompanies UFO abduction reports. The American Medical Association endorses the use of hypnosis in recovering "lost" memories in particularly intractable cases of amnesia. From the Hill case forward, many abduction accounts include such periods of missing time, and there is no doubt that hypnosis has over and over again proved both useful and accurate in recovering these lost hours or minutes. One might speculate that some sort of exotic "alien hypnotic suggestion" is used by the UFO occupants to block abductees' memories in the first place; hypnosis, therefore, becomes the most appropriate and effective technique to undo the loss by reinstating the missing time. At any rate, hypnosis works.

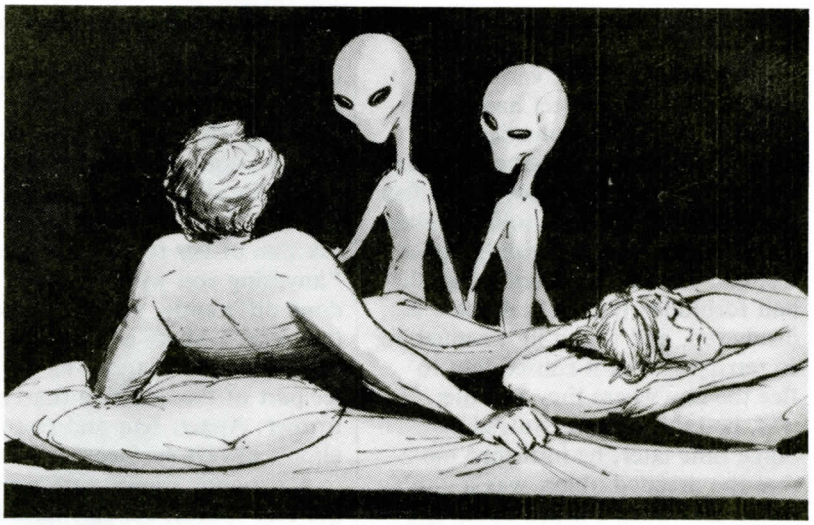
Having investigated over 200 such cases, I am very familiar with the problems of working with UFO abductees, each of whom comes equipped with numerous personal issues and/or misconceptions. As an investigator I am aware that buried trauma is almost invariably present. Second, I am aware that screen memories may have radically distorted the abductee's conscious recollection, no matter what the abductee may think at the present time. Third, I am aware that inevitably there are chunks of memory missing, so the abductee is probably not presenting a complete account of the experience. Hypnosis is obviously called for to straighten out the last two problems as best we can.

And fourth, I am aware of the abductee's often desperate need to make sense of the nearly senseless. This last problem is rarely discussed, but one can easily imagine its complexity. A born-again Christian might try to deal with his experience within a familiar theological framework, involving God and Satan, angels and demons. Another abductee with a background in metaphysics and occult spiritualism may invoke "spirit guides," "visitors," a "higher consciousness" or whatnot. A military type might worry about enemies or invaders.

In my own quest for scientific truth, I have lately found myself flanked on the left by those who would have us believe UFO occupants are literal cannibals, drinking our blood and eating our flesh. On the right we have people determined to read the phenomenon as marvelously benign, believing that "Visitors" are here because "they understand us better than we understand ourselves," and thus are here to help.



FIRST IMAGE—Many abductees with 'missing time' see a looming UFO.



EXPOSED—Buried trauma will sometimes surface with memories of the beings' interest in human sexuality. Art by Rick Moore

It is easy to understand these views within the framework of deep-seated psychological needs and desires, but it is virtually impossible to persuade their proponents to take a more objective, more scientific look at the actual content of their experiences. Many such cultists—and that, unfortunately, accurately describes their situation—avoid any further exploration of their memories, especially through hypnotic regression, lest their belief systems suffer any damage. I recently heard from an abductee who attended a meeting of a newly-established space-brother network. She was reprimanded for stressing the traumatic aspects of her abduction experiences, and for mentioning the physical pain to which she had been subjected. She was told the "Visitors" did not like such "negativity" and her complaints would get in the way of a "wonderful relationship" with these magical, but obviously touchy tourists.

I have also had to battle equally hard against the demon-mongers, for whose opposing mindset there is, as with space brothers, virtually no supportive evidence.

This is not the place to spell out the reliable patterns that I and a number of other scientifically-inclined investigators have uncovered

within the mass of abduction reports, since this material is readily available in my two books and in many articles. But it is important to understand the ideological reasons for the resistance some people have to the exploration of their experiences, with or without the use of hypnotic regression.

In addition to these committed ideologues, one must also occasionally contend with a fantasy-prone individual, the truth of whose various stories it is impossible to discover.

In one case I investigated, I became convinced for various reasons that the subject had indeed suffered real UFO abduction experiences—but I also came to realize that he was totally unable to tell fact from fantasy. He once told me about an encounter with a possibly "alien" woman. His tale involved a box she had forbidden him to look into. He disobeyed, and found in it something so terrifying that it caused him to flee the city where they had met. It was, he said, a dead, stuffed owl. Some time later, he informed me that the dreaded object was a nun's habit, and when I asked about the owl he said that maybe there had been an owl there, too, though he wasn't certain. Still later, he told me the frightening object was a latex-like body covering with a human face, hair, etc. A fellow investigator had just seen the movie "Cocoon," which included just such a rubber disguise, so he suggested I ask the subject if he was acquainted with the film. When I phoned, the witness said he did not remember having seen the movie, though his wife, speaking in the background, reminded him that they had in fact seen "Cocoon" a week or so earlier!

Two of the images the witness thought he remembered were recalled consciously and one was recalled through hypnosis. It makes no difference; none is reliable. "Normal" memory is no more trustworthy in the case of a fantasy-prone individual than is hypnotically-refreshed recall. Sadly, cases of this sort are practically worthless to the serious investigator.

In an effort to get at the objective truth of a subject's feelings about his or her abduction experiences, I often employ, after the first few sessions, a basic therapeutic device. In a hypnotic trance state—and sometimes in normal recall—the subject is asked to picture one of the UFO occupants that he or she has previously described. "Perhaps you haven't had the chance before to talk freely with this entity," I will state. "Now you have the chance. I want you to look at this figure and tell him (or her) what benefits you feel you have gained from your relationship so far." After that discussion I ask the subject to picture the figure again and I ask him or her to tell the figure "anything you wish the entity had done differently, and why you feel that way." There is generally more of a profound outpouring at the latter part of the question than at the former. Anger, fear and resentment almost always surface.

'Normal' memory is no more trustworthy in the case of the fantasy-prone individual than is hynotically-refreshed recall.

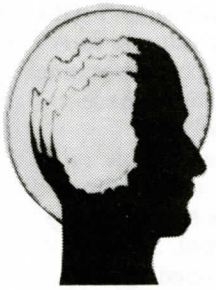
A hypnotic trance state provides the best context for this kind of totally open catharsis. It provides the abductee with a precious and much-needed sense of partial control in these encounters, though it is the kind of exercise only a non-ideological and objective investigator will attempt. In my experience, it has been immensely helpful to many abductees and demonstrates one of the therapeutic uses of hypnosis.

The network of psychiatrists, psychologists, therapists and investigators which I have slowly been assembling now encompasses 22 cities in 14 states, Canada and the District of Columbia. In addition to this network, three psychiatrists have come to me for hypnosis because of their own apparent abduction experiences, as well as four psychologists and a number of therapists. Others have referred their clients to me if they felt that hidden abduction encounters may have been part of the problem.

Unfortunately, unqualified practitioners abound, with and without the necessary academic and medical degrees. One female abductee with whom I've worked joined a cultist network before we met. The cult leader referred her to someone with an M.D. degree who claimed to have developed the "avatar" method of dealing with what he called "Visitor experiences." This doctor's fee was only $2,000 for the full course of hypnotic regression, and it was represented as guaranteed to work—money back if not satisfied! The only catch was that the first visit cost $200 and was not refundable. A psychiatrist who works with me is looking into the matter because, among other things, the "avatar man" may be violating the law.

Practitioners in my network maintain the highest professional and investigative standards, yet one critic has gone beyond these to the ridiculous length of insisting that no one with an *opinion* about the reality and/or nature of UFO abductions should ever use hypnosis with a possible abductee. This is like saying that no therapist who suspects, say, a repressed incident of child abuse with one of his or her clients should ever use hypnosis in the case! The legalistic fallacy here is the confusion of courtroom testimony with other discourse. Suppose no policeman, therapist, reporter or investigator could ever ask a question of anyone—except under the severe limitations of courtroom rules of evidence. The ludicrousness of such a proposal is self-evident. One suspects that the real reason behind such a prohibition is a fear that possibly "undesirable" information might come to the surface—particularly if skillfully-administered hypnotic regression is employed. It is a new and more subtle version of "shoot the messenger": "denounce the communication medium."

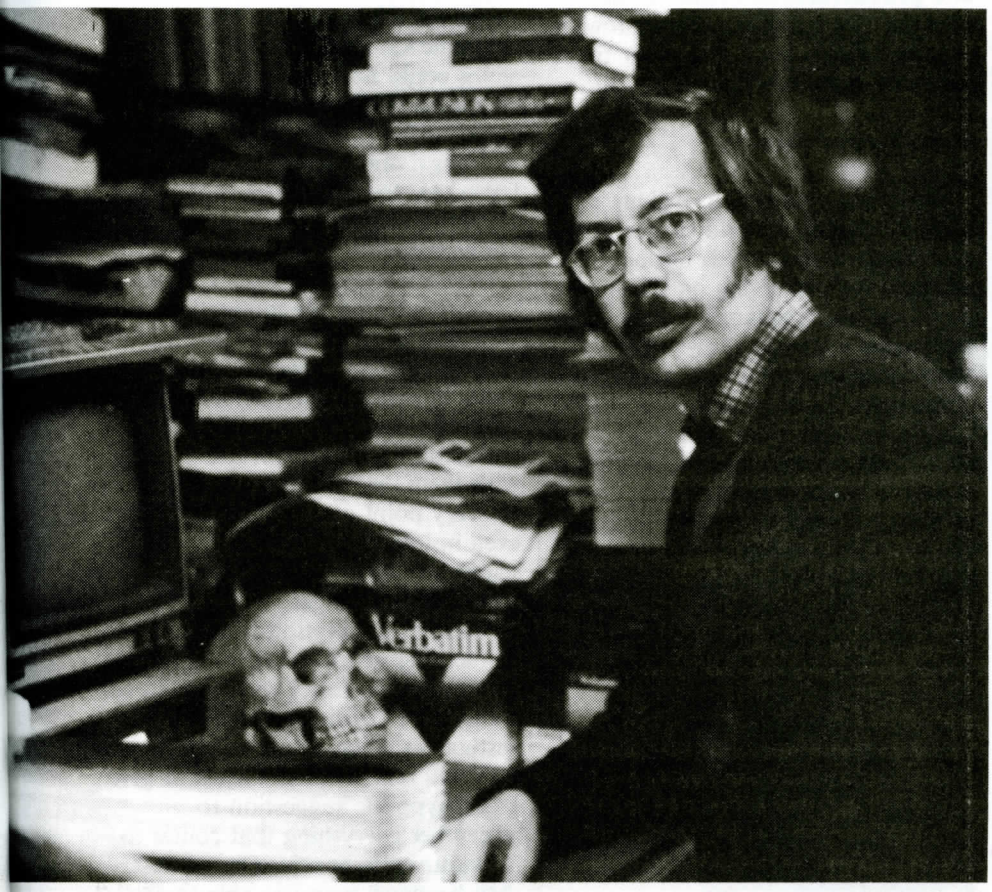
With every advance of science there are rear-guard actions fought by those whose prior belief systems are being challenged. Surely the extreme high-strangeness cases—to use J. Allen Hynek's phrase—and the genetic experimentation accounts that I have uncovered over the years have upset a number of ideological applecarts. But that, unfortunately, is how science works. To be saddled with the truth is still to be free.



An Academic Analysis:

Hypnosis No 'Truth Serum'

By Dr. Thomas Bullard



Thomas Bullard

Researchers have relied on hypnosis to uncover apparently hidden dimensions of UFO encounters and discovered extraordinary abduction stories in the process. Yet scientific studies prove hypnosis is no foolproof truth serum, but a procedure fraught with risks for error, distortion, and false memories. Critics using these studies have charged that abduction stories amount to nothing more than a structure of fantasy and cultural influence raised to an unusual height of vividness by hypnotic investigation itself. The resolution of these criticisms defines the foremost methodological issue facing abduction research today, and the value of much of the evidence for these phenomena depends on its outcome.

First of all, we must analyze some common misconceptions about hypnotic regression, to determine what we can and cannot glean from the technique.

A popular image, built up over the past two hundred years and sustained by literature, stage shows, motion pictures, and popular beliefs, links hypnotism with almost magical powers to control the subject. The idea of hypnosis as a sleeplike trance induced by a swinging pendulum or the overpowering eyes of the hypnotist includes an assumption that the subject loses all free will, and therefore lying becomes impossible. Recent successes by police hypnotists in recovering forgotten clues from crime victims has added to the reputation of hypnosis as an almost supernatural channel to truthful past memories. Ufologists are most likely to subscribe to this popular view, or give little more than lip service to skeptical reservations.

A scientific understanding of hypnosis dispenses with Svengali-like hypnotists, occult overtones, and nearly all other tenents of naive popular belief, only to replace them with a less mysterious but far more complicated phenomenon.

Effects of hypnosis on subjects

While experts cannot agree whether hypnosis is a distinct neurological condition or state of awareness, or a behavioral mode brought about by expectation and situation, two categories of observable impact on subjects seem constant.

Firstly, hypnosis reduces the volition of subjects so that they become passive and pliant, susceptible to suggestion far beyond their "waking" norm. The external influence of the hypnotist assumes dominant proportions over subjects, and whatever he suggests, whether a selectvity of attention, a calming of emotion, the assumption of a role, or the sharpening of memory, becomes a direction they follow with literal obedience and remarkable success.

Along with this enhanced suggestibility goes a second notable set of characteristics. Subjects appear to gain uncommon mental and physical powers, like sharper memory for past and even long-forgotten events, an ability to act an assigned role with thoroughgoing fidelity, and extraordinary keenness or selectivity of perception in keeping with instruc-

tions from the hypnotist. The imagination may improve as well, gaining a new capacity for vivid fantasy. Then at the end of the session the subject often forgets the whole experience with a sort of automatic amnesia.

Many of the mental phenomena of hypnosis may trace to its ability to weaken judgement. If less volition means that subjects edit their thoughts less rigorously and test reality less than usual, concentration of literal detail will improve and expressions flow more freely. Tolerance will also increase for bizarre ideas and flights of fantasy. Relaxed and detached by encouragement of the hypnotist, subjects could lose some of their normal inhibitions and act with unselfconscious spontaneity.

Alterations in subjects' behavior under hypnosis may be striking, but laboratory results affirm that these differences do not lead inevitably toward greater truthfulness. Hypnotic control is far from absolute. A matter as fundamental as knowing whether or not subjects are really hypnotized turns out to be problematic, with even experienced practitioners liable to deceit. Well-motivated subjects can lie in their own self-interest even from deep hypnosis, a finding which demolishes the faith that hypnotized subjects exercise no will and therefore cannot deliberately deceive.

Worse dangers than these deliberate efforts are part and parcel of hypnosis itself. The suggestibility of subjects is as real in scientific fact as in popular belief, but few people realize that any hint or cue dropped by the hypnotist, even an inadvertent gesture or careless phrasing of a question, may lead subjects to provide answers the hypnotist seems to want instead of the truth. In an effort to comply, subjects may fabricate an answer when they have none, simply to fulfill the hypnotist's request. Any prior beliefs or expectations, any ideas gleaned from such exterior sources as reading or movies, may join clues from the hypnotist as sources of content for statements made under hypnosis.

Once freed from normal critical judgement, subjects can imagine and fantasize shamelessly. Fragmentary memories and inaccuracies usually censored by everyday caution can emerge with greater ease. Experiments requiring subjects to recall an elementary school class or recite poetry memorized long ago resulted in detailed responses of great versimilitude. When checked against historical records and original poems, these responses proved only half-truths. Subjects blended truth and fiction into a coherent and inseparable whole. An important lesson in caution is clear—the suggestibility and guilelessness of hypnotic subjects may cut two ways, sometimes toward a more reliable truth and other times toward a more convincing fiction.

Hypnosis and Memory

Accessing memory, in waking or hypnotic states, is not a simple process, because memory is not a museum for preserving past events in a pristine and unchanging state. Experimental evidence shows that memory remains fluid, its processes constructive and not just reproductive. If memory were simply a storehouse for the past and hypnosis merely a retrieval service, all memories should be equally accessible. In fact no evidence suggests that hypnosis improves recall of nonsense materials. Only when the materials are meaningful are memories enriched under hypnosis, but motivational and emotional factors complicate recall of meaningful contents. The more involved with his memories a subject becomes, the greater the risk that creative functions will change or distort those memories. Research indicates that hypnosis increases true and false statements alike.

A great deal of research into hypnosis has been motivated by its use as a forensic tool. Criminal investigation and abduction investigation have much in common, since they deal with sudden, often traumatic events and witnesses with perhaps only confused memories. Any verdict on hypnotically enhanced testimony is thus a matter of great interest for ufologists. Police use of hypnosis during the '70s scored some spectacular successes and some equally spectacular failures due to confabulated testimony. Law enforcement hypnotists have defended hypnosis as reliable when used properly and argued that any form of investigation risks distorting witness memories. The International Society of Clinical Hypnosis and the Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis sounded an alarm in 1979 with resolutions calling for extreme caution in procedures and corroborating evidence for any assertions made under hypnosis. In 1985 the American Medical Association reviewed the relevant scholarship and also rejected hypnosis as a generally dependable forensic tool. Several state supreme courts sided against hypnosis as too unreliable for trial purposes. Then in June 1987 a U.S. Supreme Court decision ruled that states could not absolutely ban testimony acquired by hypnosis. The ruling was 5 to 4, hedged with many warnings, and permitted such testimony for defense purposes only. Hypnosis won a victory but not a vindication.

One of the experts' key reservations focuses on the motivations of everyone in an investigative situation. Motivations are powerful determinants in hypnotically influenced behavior, and everyone in an investigation brings motivations along with them. Self-interest takes a hand at every point and can distort results even in interrogation of fully conscious subjects. Hypnosis simply amplifies the danger.

Another reservation is that a demanding investigative situation increases suggestibility and leads to the creation of fictitious memories. Investigators often assure witnesses that they will remember the truth or give a posthypnotic suggestion to remember everything that comes to light during hypnosis. The witness then becomes even less able to sort out the real from the unreal. In a therapeutic situation fact and fantasy can mix to the benefit of the patient, leading to a relief of symptoms. In a courtroom or UFO investigation where truth counts, nothing could be more perilous than this mixture.

What makes it all the worse is that the witness testifies with honesty and good faith that the confabulations are true, because they seem as real as actual memories. Once established and repeated, true and false memories may become inseparable—at worst hypnosis may spoil legitimate memories.

* * *

Certainly, both theory and practice could provide some grounds for skeptical dismissal of the abduction

evidence obtained by hypnosis, but another approach might be to start at the other end and look at the evidence itself.

Instead of considering what might happen under hypnosis, we turn to what has happened, what investigation shows about the form and content of abduction reports and whether the results indicate a stable phenomenon independent of the hypnotic procedures used.

A project sponsored by the Fund for UFO Research to catalogue and compare abduction reports provides the raw material for this study. The effort netted about 300 reports of abductions or abduction-like events in the published literature, and of this number, 104 cases qualified as high in both reliability and information content. This sample allows several tests for the effects of hypnosis on the abduction story.

Comparison of abductions revealed with and without hypnosis

Any attempt to dismiss abductions as a side effect of hypnosis runs up against a serious obstacle from the start, in that not all abduction testimony emerges under hypnosis. Even for the well-investigated, high quality cases, 30 do not depend on hypnosis and 74 do.

A comparative study of the abduction reports demonstrates that numerous aspects of form and content recur time after time. An overall tally of 50 traits show that in nearly 3/4 of the time, the results were homogenous among hypnotic and non-hypnotic cases.

The traits used for comparison were specific, distinct details, such as the sequence of described events: the capture, examination, conference, tour, otherworldly journey, theophany, return, and aftermath.

Some differences in the two groups actually define what we mean by distinct samples and therefore do not count as troublesome incompatibilities. A time lapse is the hallmark of cases requiring hypnosis, but some cases never require hypnosis for the simple reason that no time lapse ever occurred. This same difference explains one dissimilarity in order as well. Since the time lapse event figures in the capture episode, cases without time lapse necessarily diverge in a comparison for order.

What remains are the irreconcilable differences, the elements most likely to condemn hypnosis as an active agent in abduction-making. The examination procedure involves several of these problems. Under hypnosis the episode proves longer and more detailed than without hypnosis; hypnotized abductees report the undressing step twice as often as nonhypnotized abductees, while in a surprising outcome, only one unhypnotized subject reports an implant into his head or body.

Hypnosis might account for this difference, perhaps because the investigator presses to find an implant and the witness obliges. Cleansing and sample taking compare in frequency, but carry little weight because their entries are few. Scans are also compatible, but this element has been familiar ever since the Pascagoula case. Reproductive tests like the needle in the navel might stand out in the memory of anyone aquainted with the Hill case. The many reports of witnesses being charged with a mission or having their thoughts altered is surprising because the notion is less familiar and yet comparably represented in both samples. The high frequency of implants in the hypnotic sample may result from investigators who favor this trait as something concrete, a potential for physical confirmation; but they might push equally hard for scans and sample taking as vivid, "traditional" and meaningful parts of an examination within the context of alien exploration beliefs. The investigators have as much vested interest in one trait as the other.

Overall, important or "classic" elements remain too scarce, little-known elements too common, and equal or unequal distributions too unpredictable to allow much confidence that hypnosis is to blame.

An interpretation that takes abduction at face value fares better with these findings. Assuming some captives are less susceptible than others to aliens' control techniques, these subjects will prove less docile and might resist certain procedures. Implants are painful and frightening enough to provoke such resistance. Undressing might offend a conscious captive, though hypnotized subjects may better overcome their bashfulness about relating this incident. Once the aliens discover that a captive is hard to control, they may truncate the examination procedures and seek more congenial subjects.

Any attempt to dismiss abductions as a side effect of hypnosis runs up against a serious obstacle in that not all abduction testimony emerges under hypnosis.

This interpretation solves another problem difficult for the hypnosis explanation to handle—far more hypnotized abductees state that the beings promised to return for them. Susceptible people might be worth coming back for, while for less pliant witnesses, goodbye may mean good riddance. Promises aside, a third of the unhypnotized witnesses nevertheless report some kind of subsequent encounter.

The most serious differences between the two samples concern the beings, with a unproportionate concentration of tall humans with hair and normal facial features in reports from unhypnotized witnesses. (The testimony of Betty Hill of the seminal Betty and Barney Hill abduction case of the '60s may offer a clue to this discrepancy. Her initial dream recollections of the beings included human figures with hair and long noses, while these beings metamorphosed into typical hairless and small-nosed humanoids during hypnotherapy. No other changes of comparable importance occurred in her testimony, suggesting that hypnosis is responsible in part for the humanoid aliens.)

Overall, the results of this comparison show that hypnotic and non-hypnotic samples match rather well, even with the beings included. Not all abduction cases are alike by any means, and most stories veer off the standard line at some point or other, *but similarities prevail with or without hypnosis.* Under these circumances the influence of hypnosis

appears modest at best. It may shape a few traits, but it leaves the majority untouched.

The Hypnotists Compared

Critics propose that the beings a witness describes may reflect the personality of the hypnotist investigating the case. Skeptic Phil Klass bases this conjecture on the observation that Budd Hopkins, used to the fast pace of New York City, discovered businesslike or cruel aliens, while Leo Sprinkle, living in a college town in Wyoming, finds his more easygoing nature reflected in a gentler breed of abductors. This observation is more playful than precise, since Sprinkle's investigations have covered the almost sadistic beings of the Casey County abduction and Hopkins the tender reunion of Kathie Davis with her alien half-daughter, but even if Klass misplaces his evidence, he still raises a good point. Does the hypnotist make a difference? Does personality and individual style cause perceptible variation in the story?

Some pattern in idiosyncracies should emerge among a given investigator's cases if the personal touch really makes a difference, but this did not turn out to be the case in our study. Descriptions varied enough from case to case in each investigator's sample to deny that any hypnotists carbon-copy their own work or successfully impose a predetermined idea on a succession of witnesses. In addition, Sprinkle's sample, which contained the most cases, also contained the most variety. His witnesses furnished a whole menagerie of aliens and yet he is the "believer," the veteran investigator most likely to have fixed ideas and impose them on witnesses. The idiosyncrasies turned up under hypnosis seem to belong to the witnesses and not the investigators. Rather than a full-scale shaping force as postulated by the skeptics, hypnotists appear less the leaders than the led.

Hypnosis of real and imaginary abductees compared

Dr. Alvin C. Lawson, Dr. William C. McCall and John DeHerrera challenged an objective interpretation of the abduction phenomenon when they hypnotized people with no inkling of an abduction experience, and still recovered "abduction" stories. In a 1977 experiment the investigators selected volunteer subjects with minimal prior UFO knowledge, hypnotized them, then asked them a series of questions based on an outline of reported abduction experiences. The hypnotist asked each subject to imagine a UFO, board it, describe its interior, describe the occupants, describe a physical examination, receive messages from the beings, exit the UFO and imagine subsequent life changes. Subjects responded and the investigators compared these accounts with reports from "true" abductees.

The outcome was astonishing. Not only did the subjects readily respond to an initial suggestion with an elaborate and detailed story, with little need for prodding along the way, but the contents bore striking similarities to alleged real abductions, both in more obvious matters and in odd, minute details. The investigators scored their data in eight categories including pattern, strangeness, subject objectivity, and emotional component. When reduced to percentages and plotted on a graph, the findings for abductees and experimental non-abductees nearly coincided. Lawson hedged his discoveries with a list of differences, cautioning that the emotions, time lapse, amnesia, nightmares, and conscious UFO encounter of real abductees distinguished them from the experimental results. Still, these observations did little to soften the impact of the experimental results.

These experiments have provoked extensive critical response from ufologists. James Harder condemned the leading structure of questions contrasted with the neutral language proper in actual investigations. The cues guided subjects well enough, he said, for their responses to appear similar to the descriptions from real witnesses, but otherwise differences would multiply. Scott Rogo pointed out that the procedures too often let the wolves guard the sheep—McCall was a poor choice for hypnotist because he was already deeply versed in real abductions, and the quantitative comparisons would be more convincing if performed by an outside party unaware of what to expect. Dr. Willy Smith criticized Lawson for seeing similarities where differences prevailed. This failure was especially notable among the beings, since humanoids predominate in natural reports but comprise a minority in the experimental cases; but the list of false identities could go on and on.

Whether the experimenters or the critics are right depends in large part on how similar the stories really are. Unfortunately, the sequence of questions in the experiment forecloses any test for order of events, so comparison must depend only on description features. Lawson's quantitative comparison is of no help here, since it uses generalized categories like "pattern" and "strangeness" rather than particular traits, and relies on a small sample of eight imaginary and four real cases, so that most proportions remain rough estimates at best.

Another loose end is descriptive terminology. Three experimental subjects described Saturn-shaped craft, whereas this specific term is rare among natural cases. Other metaphors like a "Chinese hat" shape might reduce to the same thing, but Lawson's article does not elaborate on how the experimenters rounded off their terms. A corollary problem is the vagueness of some categories, for example the messages. Several experimental subjects reported messages for ecological and scientific content. Messages from real cases touch on the same theme, so the two samples qualify as alike in general thematic terms. Yet too broad a base of comparison leaves room for largely incompatible traits to stand side by side in an apparent but ultimately unconvincing match-up. Without more specific details of the experimental findings, no informed judgement is possible about whether the categories are tight or tenuous, and consequently no definite conclusions can be reached about how compatible the traits really are, but too many similarities appear in the transcripts for chance alone to explain.

Imaginary cases pose a vexing question—how can non-abductees tell stories even broadly like those of real abductees? Any answers can only be speculative, given the uncertainties surrounding the non-abductee experiment. We need to know more about them, and we need very much to repeat them.

In the meantime, a reasonable guess would be that real abduction

narratives trace to no single source, but represent a melange of contributions—from popular culture, the hypnotist, actual experience, and the life of the witness. Many investigators have noticed that personal content slips readily into an abduction story and becomes part of it, perhaps ideas drawn from general interest and concerns, or matters related to psychological anxieties, or specific memories such as the experience of a painful operation. Adapted to an extraordinary event, these mundane elements could distort into unearthly events in keeping with the overall tenor of the story. Real and imaginary abductees might share this earthbound content and outfit their stories with it, resulting in a series of ready-made similarities.

An even more prosaic source for likenesses in abduction stories is the common cultural language shared by real and imaginary abductees. If real abductees experience an objective event, they necessarily would describe it in terms of the vocabulary, metaphors and expectations learned in the course of a lifelong social education, just as non-abductees would draw from this same fund of ideas to create and describe an imaginary abduction. Some terms in this cultural language seem bound to overlap, with the consequence being a series of similarities. They imply nothing more than that the narrators share the same opportunities and limitations of language.

One fact still favors a sharp distinction between real and imaginary cases: real abductions present the appearance of a coherent phenomenon. Their consistency in content and narrowness of variation contrast with the much greater looseness and diversity of imaginary abductions. Real hypnotic and non-hypnotic abduction stories share more in common with each other than with imaginary abduction stories, strengthening the sense that not hypnosis or the hypnotist, not cultural or personal elements can explain the unity behind real reports. Of all possible factors that might contribute to imaginary abduction stories, only experience is surely lacking. An experience of some sort thus offers the most plausible explanation for the underlying coherency to real abduction stories.

What the imaginary abduction story teaches us about the real abduction story is not that the two are ontological equivalents, but rather that real stories may well incorporate extraneous elements. The final expression of the story may represent a core of experience layered more or less thickly with unrelated events and ideas. A real abductee is thus a bad reporter, since his news includes inaccuracies. Understanding the ultimate nature of abductions depends greatly on the proportion of experience to these inaccuracies.

In Conclusion

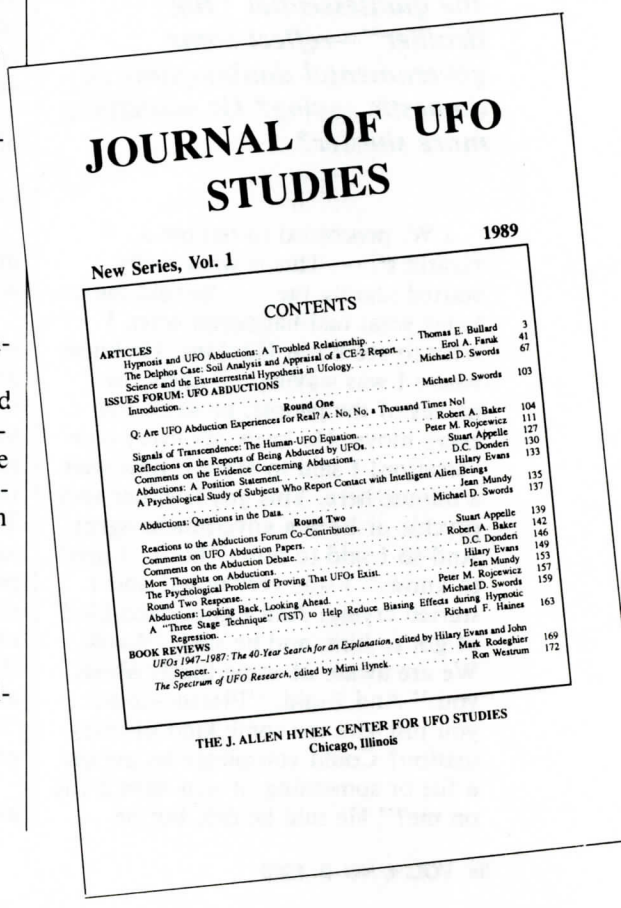
The potential for misuse of hypnosis in undeniable, yet an examination of abduction evidence points to a reassuring conclusion: what might happen according to theory seems not to have happened in fact. Outcomes in every comparison give little reason to believe that Svengali-like hypnotists lead witnesses or impose standardized abduction stories onto them.

True, the popular reputation of hypnosis suffers from unreasonably high expectations. Contrary to popular belief, hypnosis cannot guarantee truthful testimony, and in that sense, hypnosis is a disappointment, a technique full of promises it cannot keep. On the other hand, if abductions are actual and traumatic experiences, no other tool may serve as well for releasing repressed memories. Ufologists can take comfort from the findings that many abduction investigators have followed sensible precautions in the use of hypnosis, and that the body of abduction evidence now on record seems little contaminated with fantasies and inaccuracies of hypnotic origin. Investigators are becoming increasingly aware of the potential for danger in hypnosis. Carefully worked out programs of abduction investigation now under development promise far tighter control over hypnotic procedures in the future, leading to even more reliable testimony.

One cloud still darkens this otherwise bright vista: the negative scientific reputation associated with hypnosis. Too many doubts surround it for the scientific community to readily embrace hypnotic testimony as valid, especially for any claims as remarkable as UFO abductions. However rigorous the procedures, however unequivocal the comparative analysis, doubters looking for ways to condemn abduction evidence without facing up to it can always create doubt by questioning hypnosis. For ufologists hypnosis will remain an indispensable tool, but attention to conscious testimony, multiple-witness cases, and physical evidence holds out better hope than hypnosis for gathering the kind of evidence no one can ignore. Only time and open-minded research can reveal the ultimate value of hypnosis in abduction research.

Thomas Bullard has a Ph.D. in Folklore from Indiana University, and is an active ufologist. For a copy of his complete, footnoted, 40-page article from which this was excerpted, send $15 to the Journal of UFO Studies, 2457 W. Peterson Ave., Chicago, IL 60659.

In our next article on hypnotic regression in UFO research, we will look at specific methods of the hypnotic process, and case descriptions investigated from this method. We will also further explore criticisms of its veracity, including theories that hypnotically-induced abduction reports are replications of long-dormant "birth trauma," or other psychological manifestations.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CONTENTS

ARTICLES
Hypnosis and UFO Abductions: A Troubled Relationship ... Thomas E. Bullard 3
The Delphos Case: Soil Analysis and Appraisal of a CE-2 Report ... Erol A. Faruk 41
Science and the Extraterrestrial Hypothesis in Ufology ... Michael D. Swords 67
ISSUES FORUM: UFO ABDUCTIONS
Introduction ... Michael D. Swords 103
Round One
Q: Are UFO Abduction Experiences for Real? A: No, No, a Thousand Times No! ... Robert A. Baker 104
Signals of Transcendence: The Human-UFO Equation ... Peter M. Rojcewicz 111
Reflections on the Reports of Being Abducted by UFOs ... Stuart Appelle 127
Comments on the Evidence Concerning Abductions ... D.C. Donders 130
Abductions: A Position Statement ... Hilary Evans 133
A Psychological Study of Subjects Who Report Contact with Intelligent Alien Beings ... Jean Mundy 135
Abductions: Questions in the Data ... Michael D. Swords 137
Round Two
Reactions to the Abductions Forum Co-Contributors ... Stuart Appelle 139
Comments on UFO Abduction Papers ... Robert A. Baker 142
Comments on the Abduction Debate ... D.C. Donders 146
More Thoughts on Abductions ... Hilary Evans 149
The Psychological Problem of Proving That UFOs Exist ... Jean Mundy 153
Round Two Response ... Peter M. Rojcewicz 157
Abductions: Looking Back, Looking Ahead ... Michael D. Swords 159
A "Three Stage Technique" (TST) to Help Reduce Biasing Effects during Hypnotic Regression ... Richard F. Haines 163
BOOK REVIEWS
UFOs 1947–1987: The 40-Year Search for an Explanation, edited by Hilary Evans and John Spencer ... Mark Rodeghier 169
The Spectrum of UFO Research, edited by Mimi Hynek ... Ron Westrum 172

THE J. ALLEN HYNEK CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES
Chicago, Illinois

CONTACTEE:

FIRSTHAND

She says she's been dragged into a UFO and subjected to the usual indignities and traumas—a classic abduction case. According to her recent manuscript, from which this material is excerpted, the government's been on her case in a big way and has subsequently decided she'd make one fine public information rep when the truth is placed before the masses.

J.W.—protector, mentor and federal agent—apparently still meets with Christa periodically and utters his hollow words of assurance while denying her the very information she needs to perform such a service responsibly.

Does Christa's shadow—the quintessential "Big Brother"—reflect some governmental double-game of domestic spying? Or something more sinister?

J.W. proceeded to tell me a bizarre story. This is what really started scaring me . . . he told me he knew what had happened when I went to see Budd Hopkins. He knew where I was staying, he knew the names of the people, he knew my every move. He knew my every conversation! I said to myself, now wait a minute here. This guy is either very psychic or he is a government agent. And so I said to him, "Look, I need to know." I was very upset, and I started crying. And I guess that kind of got to him, and he said, "Look. We are aware of some things about you." And I said, "Please—could you just give me some kind of information? Could you please let me see a file or something, if you have a file on me?" He said he did, but he couldn't show it to me. "Can't you show me *some* proof of what you are doing with me? Why are you following me around? Why are you monitoring me?" What came out is that he is hired by one of the government agencies to monitor my activities.

What proceeded to come out of his mouth next was so bizarre that I got shaky. No one else but me and Budd Hopkins could have known about this, because I have never told anybody what came out of my regression with him, and I trust Budd enough to know that he didn't tell anyone. But this man, John Wallis—probably not his real name—proceeded to tell me about the abduction experience I had in Tucson. He told me everything that happened at the abduction site. This can't be happening, this can't be real, I thought, because what he was telling me was that "they" were present at the abduction. And I said to him, "Look—you say you're supposed to be *protecting* me?" He said he and other men with this government agency viewed my abduction as it was happening. He says they have it on film, they have photos of it.

Nobody could have known about this, I didn't tell a soul. And I said, "All right—could you please just tell me what has been going on with me all these years?"

He said the government knows who the true abductees really are, and they are monitoring their activities and have followed them on some of their abductions, had been to the sites and had stood back and viewed them as they were happening. This is when I got very angry and said, "Wait a minute! If you're supposed to be protecting me, why didn't you come in and try to save me from them dragging me on board that craft? Weren't you concerned about my safety?" And he answered, "Our policy is not to intervene, or to get in the way of the project."

"What project are you talking about here?" I asked.

Christa Tilton

"Well, you have been abducted since you were a child," J.W. said, "and the aliens we're aware of are dealing in a program—a project, an experiment, whatever you want to call it. They're doing this, and we are aware of it." He told me there had been other people who had followed me, and that there were other pictures in my file.

I said, "All right, I demand to see this file. I need proof for myself and I need it right now!"

"Well I'm sorry, I don't have it on me," he said.

"Very convenient, very convenient," I said. "You're lying to me and this is all a set-up. You're trying to set me up!"

"No Christa, really," he said. "I'm not trying to set you up. I'm only telling you what I'm allowed to tell you."

"You can't show me any pictures?" I was devastated. "You can't show me a picture of the alien or the craft involved in my abductions? You can't show me a piece of paper from my file? You can't show me anything at all?"

He said no, that he didn't have anything with him, which I knew was not true. These government agents are trained to lie, and feed you this information, and I assumed that's what was going on. This guy had to

have been at the abduction, because nobody else knew what happened there except me, the aliens, and Budd Hopkins.

* * *

At this point I was getting really tired of playing the game. I said, "Is there anything else I need to know? Have I been abducted this week? If so, did you get any great pictures?" I was really being kinda smart-ass about it all.

"Look, Christa," J.W. said, "I think this has gone far enough. When I told you I was not out to get you the first time we met, I was being truthful with you. I've tried to tell you over and over again, and I've tried to warn you about certain people. I'm sorry if you cannot believe that our government is trying, or would be willing to try to help someone like yourself. But the fact is, our government has had knowledge of your abductions for years.

"Here is the situation—since all of these abductions are starting to become public now, our agency has decided that it's possible to go public with certain abductions they're aware of happening—that involve genetic experimentations, cross-breeding—but that it has to be handled very delicately because it could cause a lot of problems . . .

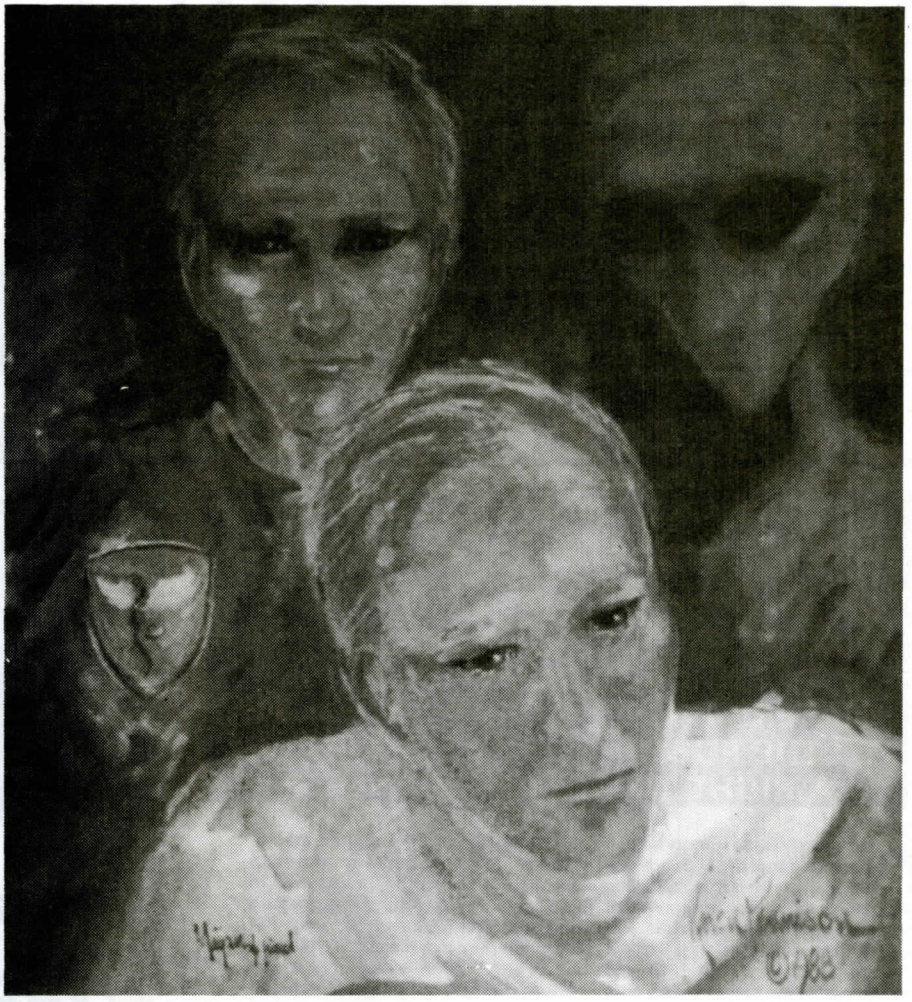
". . . We were thinking about first making contact with you and letting you know we are aware of what's going on . . . get you under our wing so that you'll know you're protected at all times, and then eventually we were going to set up a meeting with you with some other government officials. We now feel that the abductions are being accelerated and that you would be one of the ones we'd focus on, who could easily flip out to the public some new statement about what is happening."

"I'm trying to protect my family here," I told him. "How do you expect me to go public?"

"Just let me say that it will not happen all at once," he said. "My superiors want to talk to you about how you feel about everything, and if you feel strong enough, possibly, for them to allow some of this material to be released through a government agency."

"You mean the government really wants to help now instead of fighting us and making us look like asses?" I asked. "You have all made us look like loonies, like we're crazy."

And he said, "I know, I know. This was just to protect people . . ."



SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT—Rendering of the human-looking and humanoid beings described by Christa Tilton from memories of her own abduction experiences. Art by Karen Tennison

* * *

When MUFON set up a meeting in Dallas, at which I spoke, they sought to restrict other recordings of the event so as to limit copies to their one official version. "John Wallis" showed up at that meeting—suddenly wearing a beard—and had a lengthy exchange with me during my presentation. Wanting to be accurate in my quotes, I ordered an official copy of the tape from MUFON. When it arrived, it had all of the exchange with Wallis, some 7 minutes and 20 seconds, completely missing. Apparently the agent had cued the person running the MUFON recorder not to tape his voice and the questions he would ask, and so they were not on the tape. Apparently, unknown to MUFON or Wallis, two complete recordings were made, from recorders that were hidden.

Why did J. W. make this appearance in the first place? How could he be sure I would not betray him? What was the point of him drawing attention to himself by asking questions in the first place? Why were none of his questions and my answers on MUFON's master recording?

Probably the strongest suggestion so far is that he expected me to recognize him and challenge him. And he was most likely well prepared for that, with new identification credentials to prove that he was not the John Wallis I would claim him to be. The result would be suspicion directed against me and subsequent reduction of my credibility. If that was the motive it failed, because I did not rise to the bait.

We anxiously await the next move.

SUPPRESSED C.I.A. DOCUMENTS PROVE U.S. POSSESSES REMAINS OF U.F.O.'S & ALIEN BEINGS

OUR LAST 8 PRESIDENTS HAVE BEEN IN ON "THE ULTIMATE DECEPTION"

NOW FOR THE FIRST TIME, ALL THE FACTS ABOUT THIS "COSMIC WATERGATE" ARE BEING RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC BECAUSE YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW THE TRUTH!

For many years, rumours have persisted that the U.S. government has in it's possession space ships manufactured on other worlds, as well as the occupants of these interplanetary craft.

Recently obtained CIA, FBI and State Department documents verify that the "ABOVE TOP-SECRET" scientific discovery of all time has been hidden from the people of Earth due to the fact that the radical new technology the aliens have developed could alter our civilization overnight.

In the late 1940's and early 1950's, both Army and Air Force military units — on direct orders from the Pentagon — rushed to the site of several crashes in the Southwestern part of the United States and carted away the UNEARTHLY remains of both the craft and alien occupants. The wreckage and bodies were eventually put into "deep-freeze" storage at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. According to military sources who later went against orders and decided to talk, Hangar 18 was used for this purpose. To date, no one has been allowed inside — not even Senator Barry Goldwater, who was turned away although he made several requests that he be permitted to check the contents of the hangar.

A THREAT?

Now the TRUTH can be told! Recently because of a new law enacted by Congress known as the Freedom of Information Act, civilian researchers have been able to obtain via court order, classified CIA, FBI and State Department documents which verify the fact that we are not alone in the universe — that there is someone out there besides us.

At one point there was actually a "tug-of-war" going on between various branches of the government as to who was to get final access to these space craft. Said FBI Director, J. Edgar Hoover in a signed memo: "We must insist upon full access to the discs discovered. For instance, in the Louisiana case, the Army grabbed the discs and would not allow the FBI to have it for examination." Similarly, in 1973, Henry Kissinger telexed our South African Embassy requesting they attempt to recover a UFO that had gone down in the jungle.

Noted UFO researcher Timothy Green Beckley has finally broken the previously unpenetrable barrier of silence that has kept this shocking news out of the national media. Disclosed for the first time is the existence of a highly classified research and development/intelligence operation known as OPERATION MAJESTIC-12 responsible directly and *only* to the President of the United States.

MJ-12 was established by President Truman to take charge of the technical, sociological and other aspects of the crashed UFOs and the small aliens who were inside the craft when it exploded. MJ-12 was made up of a team of highly trained scientists and military personnel who have been sworn to total secrecy. The group is said to exist even today and now holds the responsibility of establishing an ongoing relationship with UFO beings who years ago set up open communication with our government.

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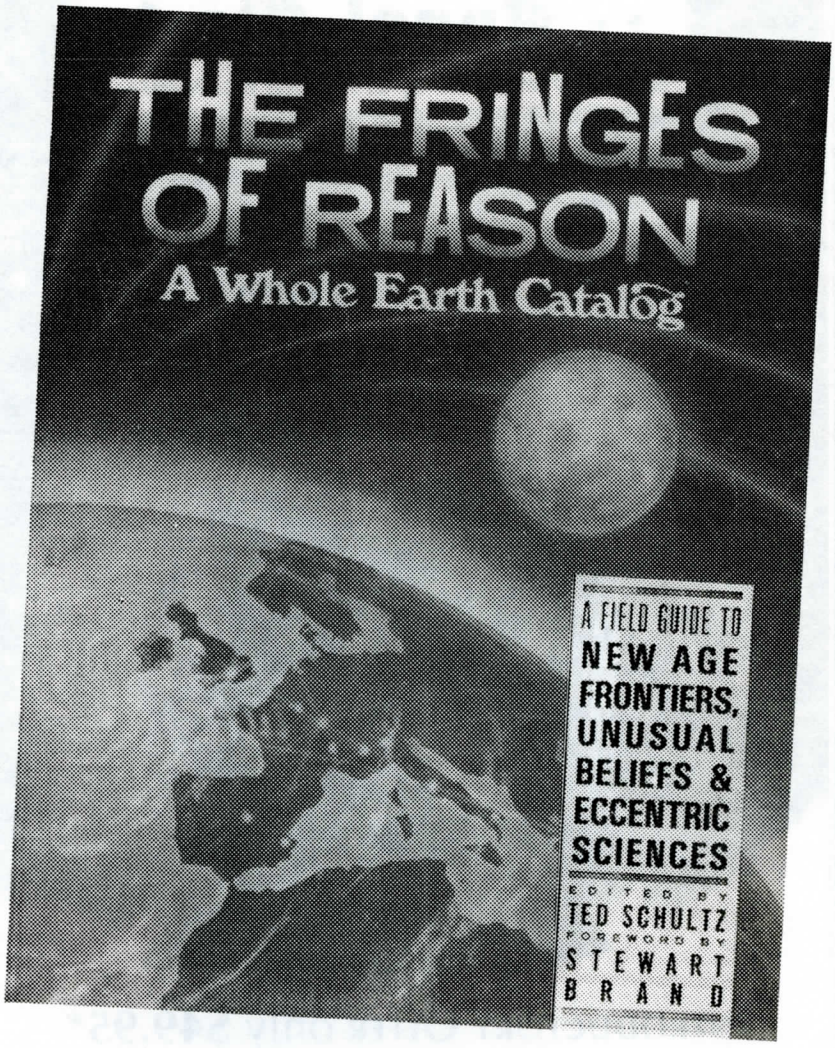

Invariably, something odd and untoward happens when an "outsider," however well intentioned, turns his or her attention to the UFO literature. Biases become apparent, emphases are misplaced, or material of a significant nature is simply and inexplicably omitted. Curiously this is the case with ***Fringes***, subtitled "A Field Guide to New Age Frontiers, Unusual Beliefs & Eccentric Sciences," brought to you by the usually reliable and thorough people at the Point Foundation, Sausalito, producers of the quarterly *Whole Earth Review* and irregular access catalogues such as this one.

The book is made up of six sections, each devoted to a segment of original articles, reprints and reviews of journals, books and organizations, where applicable. Stewart Brand, Whole Earth father-figure, contributes an uncharacteristically frivolous, but brief, introduction. "The New, Improved Age" treats such topics as apocalyptic thinking, the new generation of "shamans" proliferating out of the continental woodwork, crystalmania and "spiritual" capitalism as evidenced by the Airplane pyramid game, a recent fleece of frequent flyers.

"Inner Frontiers" deals with channeling, dowsing and parapsychology in general. "Everything You Know Is Wrong!" looks at spontaneous human combustion, conspiracy theories, flat-earthers and Forteans, among others. "Weird Science" features the encyclopedist of anomalies, William Corliss of the Source Book Project, perpetual motion schemes and machines and cryptozoology. "Not Of This Earth" is devoted to UFOs, while "What Is Reality?" focuses on professional skepticism and the cult-to-end-cults, the decidedly eccentric Ivan Stang of Dallas and the Church of the SubGenius. Probably neither party will be pleased with this particular pairing.

It is with the segment on ufology that we will mostly concern ourselves here. The most glaringly inexcusable omission of all, I suppose, is that of Jacques Vallee, still generally regarded as one of the field's foremost philosophers and contributors. Not only are there no reviews of any books by Vallee, or any original contribution, but his name is not even listed in the presumably accurate index! How this could be is unfathomable, given that editor Schultz writes in his closing that ***Fringes*** is "only the tip of the iceberg of what I *wanted* to include, but I chose to go for thoroughness of coverage of selected topics rather than an exhaustive but superficial approach."

What he has included is commendable enough, the completeness proviso aside. John Keel weighs in with two pieces, "The Man Who Invented Flying Saucers," about Ray Palmer, and "The Great Phonograph in the Sky." Douglas Curran contributes some text and striking photographs from his book of the same name, "In Advance of the Landing." There are three short pieces on UFO folklore, two by Jerome Clark on crashed saucers and humanoids, and one by this reviewer on Men In Black, or MIB. And the access section includes reviews of numerous publications and books, some long out of print and some prohibitively expensive for the average budget.

Most of the individual assessments of source material I would agree with, although there are one or two curiosities here, too. Schultz, for instance, refers to ***UFOs: A Scientific Debate***, edited by Carl Sagan and Thornton Page, as "the best book to read when asking the question, 'Are

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UFOs real?' " Admittedly, this is a matter of personal opinion, but mine would rank ***Debate*** third or lower behind the controversial Condon Report (***Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects***) and Capt. Edward Ruppelt's ***The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects***, preferably the edition without the three chapters later added to take away with the left hand what the right had already bestowed. Neither book is even mentioned, however.

The English contribution is conspicuously absent, too, and the argument that it might be difficult to access simply won't wash. Hilary Evans' two fine psychological studies of the visitor experience were readily available in some U.S. bookstores, along with several of the works of the indefatigable Jenny Randles, to mention but two British authors. The venerable ***Flying Saucer Review***, the world's oldest continually-published UFO journal, is also left in the lurch.

One might also wish that so much of the material presented had not been reprinted from the genesis of ***Fringes***, the fall, 1986, No. 52 issue of *Whole Earth Review*, where it originally appeared. This makes at least the third time that Keel's article on Palmer has appeared in print. And unless one is a complete addict, once would have been enough for the Rev. Stang, too. The space could have easily been put to better as well as newer use, given the amount of worthy UFO material omitted.

Most of these sins are ones of omission rather than commission. But there is at least one of the latter. Under "Chroniclers of the Unexplained," for example, Michael Persinger and Gyslaine Lafreniere's now classic ***Space-Time Transients and Unusual Events*** (p. 84) is listed as being available from Reader's Digest (!). Stranger things have happened, but the last time I looked, the publisher was Nelson-Hall.

Cavils and quibbles aside—some slight—should you drop 15 hard-earned bucks on this book? Unequivocally. Despite the pecadillos referred to above, the usual wealth of material expected in a Whole Earth access catalogue is still here, much of it unavailable anywhere else. And the original and reprinted articles are well worth reading, and in a few instances even worth a read the second time around.

C O N T A C T

This section presents listings of groups and individuals involved in the spectrum of UFO and UFO-related phenomena. This issue's CONTACT has been shortened due to space limitations.

Inclusion in CONTACT does not necessarily indicate a belief in either UFOs or extraterrestrial life, nor does it constitute an endorsement by UFO Magazine or its publishers. UFO reserves the right to select and edit listings. For more information, write UFO, 1800 So. Robertson Blvd., Box 355, Los Angeles, CA 90035, or call (213) 273-9409.

Investigation & Research

CLEVELAND UFOLOGY PROJECT gathers and researches UFO information in an effort to educate the public, and also conducts case investigations. C.U.P. has been in existence for 34 years, making it one of the oldest UFO institutions around. Meetings are held regularly on the third Saturday of each month, and ufologists traveling to Ohio are urged to get in touch with this long-lived organization.
CONTACT: Mary Ann Hawk, Cleveland Ufology Project, 7653 Normandie Blvd., C-33, Cleveland, OH 44130 (216) 243-0782

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CONTACT: Scott Colborn, Fortean Research Center, P.O. Box 94627, Lincoln, NB 68509

FOUNDATION FOR UFO RESEARCH is a non-profit, tax-exempt foundation whose major activities are informing the general public of the nature and scope of the UFO phenomenon and offering grants and awards to individuals and organizations to advance humanity's knowledge of the UFO phenomenon. The Foundation sponsors a Significant Work Award to recognize important contributions to the field.
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J. ALLEN HYNEK CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES incorporates the name of the man, now deceased, who was probably the most respected and credible UFO researcher in the United States. The Center attempts to maintain Hynek's tradition of credibility and scientific research, publishing the well-respected ufological bi-monthly, International UFO Reporter. (The Center is reviving its quarterly Journal for UFO Studies; science adviser, Mark Rodeghier). Nearly 100 volunteer investigators participate in association with CUFOS, which maintains 35 file drawers of case material once belonging to National Investigating Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP).
CONTACT: J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies, 2457 West Peterson Ave., Chicago, IL 60659. International UFO Reporter: Jerome Clark, editor, 1511 Greenleaf St., Evanston, IL 60202

INSTITUTE FOR UFO CONTACTEE STUDIES, along with Paranormal Research Organization and UFO Studies, sponsors the well-attended Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation. (This year's is scheduled for June 29, 30 and July 1.) This annual congregation of contactees and investigators takes place at the University of Wyoming, workplace of UFO researcher and hypnotist Dr. Leo Sprinkle. The purpose of IFUFOCS, says Sprinkle, is to research contactee phenomena and help bring to light the nature of their experiences. Conference proceedings are available in booklet form.
CONTACT: R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D., Institute for UFO Contactee Studies, 1425 Steele St., Laramie, WY 82070. (307) 745-7897

LOS ANGELES UFO RESEARCH GROUP teams scientists, engineers and other professionals who pool their interests and expertise to rationally pierce the UFO mystery. Facts and serious study of the objects distinguish LAUFORG's recently-published summary, "Introduction to Issues of UFO Research," a 94-page softcover book available by mail for $9.95. "It is available for all those who have become interested in the UFO subject," writes a MUFON investigator, "but who do not have the time to delve into the voluminous scientific and objective literature produced since 1947." LAUFORG represents credible researchers, many specializing in specific aspects of ufology.
CONTACT: LAUFORG, P.O. Box 1421, Topanga, CA 90290.

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CONTACT: Walter H. Andrus, Jr., International Director, Mutual UFO Network, Inc., 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, TX 78155-4099. (512) 379-9216

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THE NEW YORK FORTEAN SOCIETY, organized last year, investigates and reports on unexplained natural events and scientific anomalies. Information is presented in lectures and demonstrations, plus a membership newsletter. Logistical support is provided by Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained (NJ) and International Fortean Organization (Washington, D.C.). NYFS is chaired by noted Fortean maven and author John A. Keel.
CONTACT: The New York Fortean Society, P.O. Box 20024, New York, NY 10025

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE UNEXPLAINED was founded in 1981 by veteran UFO and phenomena researcher Stan Gordon, is established as a state-wide clearinghouse for investigation of UFOs, Bigfoot and other phenomena. An all-volunteer, non-profit scientific research unit, PASU is made up of research specialists that include scientists, doctors, engineers, technicians and a staff of other professional consultants. PASU attempts to send trained teams of investigators to the site of an occurrence on an around-the-clock basis, if the situation so warrants. Cases from State, Municipal and Federal agencies are frequently referred to PASU for investigation.

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CONTACT: George D. Fawcett, 602 Battleground Rd., Lincolnton, NC 28092. (704) 735-5725

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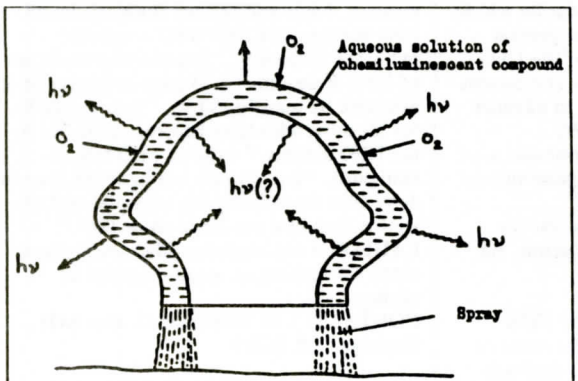

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KLARK KENT SUPER SCIENCE is dedicated to technology for the New Age. Kent lectures on the discoveries of inventors such as Reich, Moray, Searl and Leedskalnin, and claims replications of their work and that of others are providing the practical knowledge needed to build flying saucers. Super Science functions on the premise that flying saucer motor technology is the bridge to the cosmos.
CONTACT: Klark Kent, P.O. Box 392, Dayton, OH 45409. (513) 298-7116

STELLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE offers an outlet for the open research and development of alternative energies, advanced aerospace capabilities, world grid investigations and ancient mysteries. Peaceful, beneficial uses of technology are emphasized and appear in books put out by S.R.I's affiliate, Adventures Unlimited Press. A non-profit organization, S.R.I. currently conducts experiments with free-energy motors and gravity control devices, and wishes to network with others interested in the development of native technologies.
CONTACT: Stellar Research Institute, Box 74, Kempton, IL 60946

VORTEX, GRID & LEY presents seven Earth energy secrets, from energy/ley line researcher Allan Grise. This information is available in booklet or cassette for $7.
CONTACT: Allan Grise, 7720 Paradise Valley 201, San Diego, CA 92139

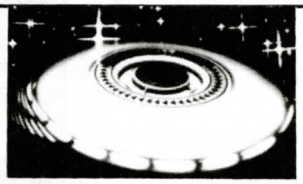
Special Projects

ANCIENT ASTRONAUT SOCIETY is dedicated to the search for evidence to determine whether Earth was visited by extraterrestrial beings in ancient times, and to determine whether a highly-developed technological civilization existed on Earth prior to recorded history. Providing a forum for the exchange of ideas, the society disseminates factual material throughout the world.
CONTACT: Gene M. Phillips, Ancient Astronaut Society, 1921 St. Johns Ave., Highland Park, IL 60035-3105. (312) 295-8899

BLUEPEACE will eventually present factual UFO testimony before Congress, its principle goal. An offshoot of Computer UFO Network, this civilian interest organization is drumming up support for Congressional hearings not only on UFOs, but other important issues as well. "Any area that affects Americans and their Constitutional rights," says Bluepeace spokesman Dale Goudie. The project will also help fund other worthwhile projects and organizations. Inquiries are welcome.
CONTACT: Bluepeace, P.O. Box 832, Mercer Island, WA 98040

CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY openly challenges the federal government to make public its vast stores of UFO information. By accessing governmental UFO data through the Freedom of Information Act and employing other appropriate tactics, CAUS is able to document events relating to official secrecy. CAUS networks with ufologists both in and out of the U.S. and publishes "Just Cause" newsletter with "inside information."
CONTACT: Larry Bryant, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, 3518 Martha Custis Dr., Alexandria, VA 22302.

FUND FOR UFO RESEARCH, INC., a non-profit, scientific organization, directs public contributions into UFO research and education projects. Since its inception in 1979, the Fund has raised more than $67,000, nearly half of which has been spent on grants, case investigations, government investigations, awards and symposia. No memberships; strictly a funding organization—though some books and informational case material can be ordered.
CONTACT: Fred Whiting, Secretary-



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Treasurer, Fund for UFO Research, Inc., P.O. Box 277, Mt. Rainier, MD 20712

Foreign Groups

BRITISH UFO RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, or BUFORA, is probably the best known UFO research group in the United Kingdom. Established in 1964, BUFORA works at encouraging, promoting and conducting unbiased scientific research of UFOs, collecting and disseminating data in lectures and its publications called Transient Aerial Phenomena and the BUFORA Bulletin. The newsletter offers a regular round-up of UFO events being investigated in England.
CONTACT: Arnold West, membership secretary, 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9ST, England

CANADIAN U.F.O. RESEARCH NETWORK is Canada's largest and oldest UFO investigative organization, according to co-director Lawrence Fenwick. The group specializes in probing close encounters and abduction reports, along with maintaining extensive files and publishing a bi-monthly journal. A list of recommended books and magazines is also available. CUFORN has membership qualifications that include a minimum of three years of intensive UFO research, a process consisting of reading at least five books on ufology or one of the following: a university or college degree, or training in a scientific discipline, law enforcement, public relations, photography, art, media or private investigation.
CONTACT: Lawrence J. Fenwick, P.O. Box 15, Station "A", Willowdale, Ontario, Canada M2N 5S7

CONTACT INTERNATIONAL collects UFO reports from all parts of the globe. Based in Britain, the data agency dispatches its own team of investigators to check UK sightings. CI maintains a master catalogue containing 76,000 sightings recorded from B.C. to the present, and has begun computerizing reports for easier access. A quarterly magazine called "Awareness" and an annual called "UFO Register" are available by subscription at $4.95 pounds per year (check dollar exchange rate at time of order.)
CONTACT: D.N. Mansell, Contact International, 48 Crown Rd., Wheatley, Oxford, OX91UL, England.

GALACTEUS-TRANSTAR focuses on experiencing and understanding interdimensional communications. The 20-year-old communal group, through a synthesis of many traditions and an ongoing transmutation program, has built up an operational knowledge it shares with interested groups and individuals. GALACTEUS also hosts a variety of activities and vacation-workshops in Tahiti.
CONTACT: GALACTEUS-TRANSTAR, 2210 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 476, Santa Monica, CA 90403; or B.P. 4557, Papeete, Tahiti, French Polynesia

INDEPENDENT UFO NETWORK was formed in 1987 out of liaison between members of the West Yorkshire research

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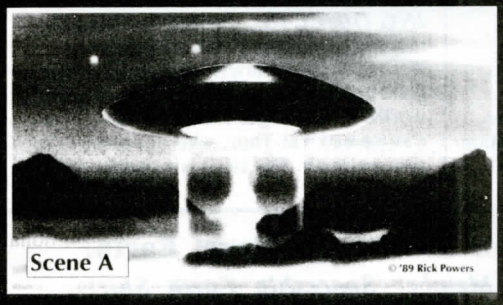

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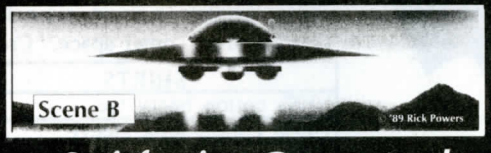

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group (WYUFORG), the Yorkshire UFO Network and several independent investigators in northern England. It seeks to disseminate its wide-ranging research and investigation via UFO Brigantia, the network's bi-monthly journal. The group holds no particular viewpoint on the nature of the UFO enigma.
CONTACT: Martin Dagless, 19 Bellmount Gardens, Bramley, Leeds, West Yorkshire, England LS13 2ND,

YORKSHIRE UFO SOCIETY, a non-profit research organization located in Yorkshire, England, compiles and studies UFO reports received from all over the world. By such means, the society seeks to provide an overall picture of the UFO phenomenon as it affects their local area and beyond. Resulting information is disseminated through public lectures, discussion, the media and their own UFO publication, QUEST. In the U.S., a year's subscription to this bi-monthly is $15.00.
CONTACT: Yorkshire UFO Society, 12 Miles Hill St., Leeds, LS72EQ, Yorkshire, England

Networking

AMALGAMATED FLYING SAUCER CLUBS OF AMERICA, INC., billed as the world's largest contactee-oriented flying saucer research organization, is headed up by California contactee Gabriel Green. Like many other contactees and telepathic channels of ET messages, Green views modern-day extraterrestrial visitation as the most important event in our history. AFSCA promotes the beneficent efforts of the space people on our behalf, distributing an array of books, photos, information sheets and taped lectures. Green also facilitates past-life regressions and is known for advocating an egalitarian New Age ideology called Universalism.
CONTACT: Amalgamated Flying Saucer Clubs of America, P.O. Box 39, Yucca Valley, CA 92286. (619) 365-1141

BLUE ROSE MINISTRY publishes the "Solar Space Letter," a monthly compilation of cosmic information channeled through Rev. Bob Short. Acting as a "translator" for UFO intelligences contacting Earth, Rev. Short, who claims visual UFO contact in the presence of other witnesses, offers spiritual counseling from space intelligences' perspective. Formerly located in the UFO-active high desert area of southern California, the Blue Rose Ministry currently operates out of Arizona.
CONTACT: Rev. Bob Short, Blue Rose Ministry, P.O. Box 332, Cornville, AZ 86325

DELVAL UFO, INC., dedicated to the "en-LIGHT-enment" of humankind, reaches out to other groups and individuals focused on understanding UFO phenomena and occupants. Anthony and Lynn Volpe, Delval president and vice president respectively, concentrate on furthering the positive, uplifting aspects of UFOs. Delval informs people through lectures, interviews and mass media. All this supplements their newsletter, called "Awakening." (Send SASE with inquiry.)
CONTACT: Delval UFO, Inc., 948 Almshouse Rd. Ivyland, PA 18974

J & S AQUARIAN NETWORKING shares all types of spiritual/metaphysical information, specializing in the areas of UFOs, crystals and crystal skulls. Additional services range from networking through lectures, as well as sales/exchanges of books and mailing lists. Acting as a nexus point in the process of global information systems, J & S plans to create this vision by utilizing our modern technology via computer and video. Says Shapiro, "We are open to connecting with others of like mind, and especially New Age businesses wishing to network as a way of speeding up the global sharing of information and manifestation of the Golden Age to our world."
CONTACT: J & S Aquarian Networking, Att'n: Jeff & Joshua, P.O. Box 1395, Pacifica, CA 94044. (415) 359-1921 (Joshua), 756-0633 (Jeff)

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS,, directed by evangelical minister/contactee Frank Stranges, disseminates a quarterly newsletter called UFO journal and other contactee-oriented works. Dr. Stranges claims he met a Venusian named Val Thor, who has a special mission on earth. NICUFO is a membership

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organization that holds regular UFO Space and Science meetings which are open to the public.
CONTACT: NICUFO, P.O. Box 5, Van Nuys, CA 91401

OUTER SPACE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATIONS SOCIETY is run by Ray Keller and Jane Fuller, who publish a monthly newsletter called the Millenial Star. (Sample copies, $1.) They also do a weekly cable TV program on Ch. 27 in Albuquerque, NM. The efforts of the OSIRIS couple reveal a "New Age" orientation, and Keller claims their efforts are being done on "behalf of humanity—to promote world peace and prepare people's hearts and minds for the arrival of great intelligences from other star systems." Branch offices exist in three other states and Australia.
CONTACT: OSIRIS, P.O. Box 1293, Bernalillo, NM 87004. Call (505) 891-0491

PLEIADES FOUNDATION FOR PEACE interprets God awareness from a vantage point that transcends conventional religion, says director Miguel Ribera. His group searches out star people, teaches scriptural mysteries and stresses the importance of the Pleiadian system to humanity's existence. The Pleiades Foundation derives its name from the star system referred to in the Christian bible, and is not related to material or organizations involved with the Billy Meier contactee case.
CONTACT: Miguel Ribera, Pleiades Foundation for Peace, Inc., 1570 Nannette Dr., Reno, NV 89502

UFORUM holds meetings the last Saturday of each month. Lectures present researchers and contactees who share their visions of the UFO phenomenon. UFORUM freely explores unusual experiences involving extraterrestrial intelligence and space ships on various reality levels. Information on upcoming programs is available by mail.
CONTACT: Penny Harper, UFORUM, 11020 Ventura Blvd., Suite 134-CU, Studio City, CA 91604. (213) 874-8185.

UFO CONTACT CENTER INTERNATIONAL deals specifically with helping contactees, running 22 centers throughout the U.S. and Canada. This non-profit support center provides needed counseling to those who have been subjected to scorn and ridicule and are having difficulty coping with sudden changes in their lives. UFOCCI publishes a monthly newsletter called "The Missing Link," $18 annually; $30 for foreign subscriptions.
CONTACT: Aileen Edwards, director, UFO Center International, UFO Contact Center International, 3001 So. 288th St., Federal Way, WA 98003

UNIVERSALIA dedicates its New Age work to the expansion of conscious awareness. Channeled material from higher planes fills most of the pages in a bi-monthly publication, "The Universalian," although there are specifically extraterrestrial messages as well, according to Universalian Sandra Radhoff.
CONTACT: Universalia, P.O. Box 6243, Denver, CO 80206

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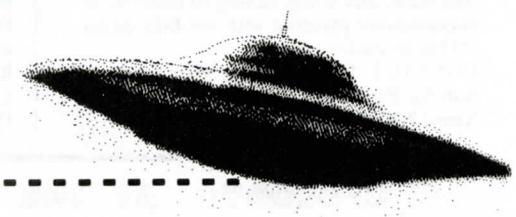

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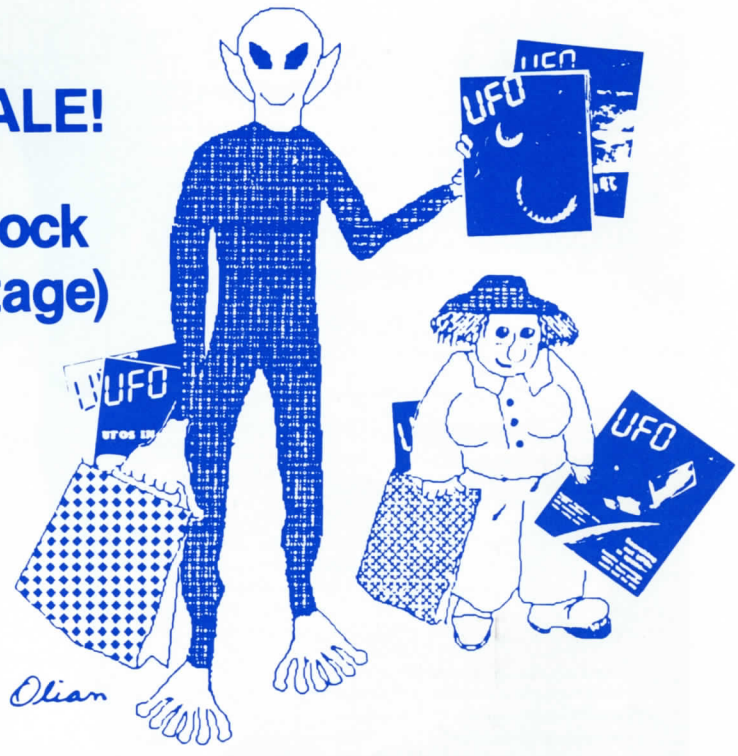

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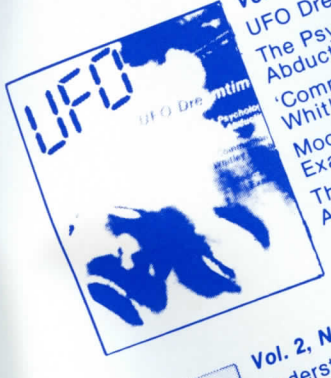

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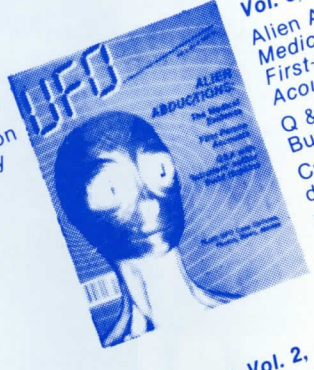

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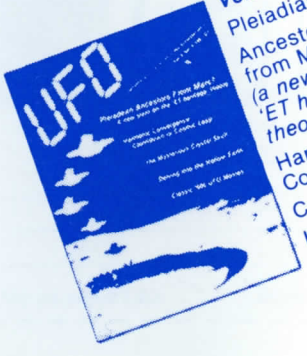

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